



# FACTS AND -FIGURES-

## THE HIGHEST TESTIMONY

What Lord Dufferin, Lorne and Lansdowne say  
about the Canadian Northwest.

Defining Comparisons of Cost of Wheat Production  
25 Cents a Bushel

THE WHEAT PROBLEM DISCUSSED

By J. H. ROBERTSON

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## INTRODUCTORY.

With the object of disseminating information concerning Manitoba and the Northwest Territories in the Dominion of Canada, that shall not be misleading and can be relied upon as strictly accurate, this pamphlet is published for distribution specially in connection with the Colonial Exhibition, at which the products of Canada and particularly its north-western territories, are so largely represented. The compiler is deeply impressed with the desirability of placing before the people of Great Britain and Europe facts which cannot be gainsaid; he is anxious that no false impressions regarding the marvellous capabilities of the British American possessions may be diffused, and he is further desirous that the intending immigrant may become thoroughly acquainted with the resources of the country before deciding to embark for its shores. Nothing has, therefore, been selected for publication in this pamphlet, but which bears the impress of truth and reality upon its face. First will be found the speeches of the last three Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, each one delivered after its author had traversed the country from end to end, and immediately after his inspection of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. The speeches were delivered in Winnipeg, the capital of the Province of Manitoba, designated by the Earl of Dufferin "the key stone of that mighty arch of sister provinces which span the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific." With the exception of political references which have no bearing on the capabilities of the country, the speeches are given verbatim.

## EARL OF DUFFERIN'S SPEECH.

The first in order is the following speech by the Earl of Dufferin now Viceroy of India, but who was the second Governor-General of Canada since the confederation of its provinces was accomplished in 1867. The speech was delivered at a *déjeuner* tendered to His Excellency by the citizens of Winnipeg upon the occasion of his return from a triumphal tour through the fertile territories lying to the west.

His Lordship said:—

*Mr. Mayor, Your Honor, Ladies and Gentlemen:* In rising to express my acknowledgements to the citizens of Winnipeg for thus crowning the friendly reception I have received throughout the length and breadth of Manitoba by so noble an entertainment, I am painfully oppressed by the consideration of the many respects in which my thanks are due to you, and to so many other persons in the Province. From our first landing on your quays until the present moment my progress through the country has been one continual delight; nor has the slightest hitch or incongruous incident marred the satisfaction of my visit. I have to thank you for the hospitalities I have enjoyed at the hands of your individual citizens, as well as of a multitude of independent communities, for the tasteful and ingenious decorations which adorned my route, for the quarter of a mile of evenly yoked oxen that drew our triumphal car, [applause], for the universal proofs of your loyalty to the Throne and the Mother Country, and for your personal goodwill towards Her Majesty's representative. Above all, I have to thank you for the evidences produced on either hand along our march of your prosperous condition, of your perfect contentment, of your happy confidence in your future fortunes;—for I need not tell you that to anyone in my situation smiling cornfields, cosy homesteads, the joyful faces of prosperous men and women, and the laughter of healthy children, are the best of all triumphal decorations. [Great applause]. But there are other things for which I ought to be obliged to you, and not the least for the beautiful weather you have taken the precaution to provide us with during some six weeks of perpetual camping out, for which attention I have received Lady Dufferin's special orders to render you her personal thanks—an attention which the unusual phenomenon of a canal water spout enabled us only the better to appreciate. From its geographical position and its peculiar characteristics, Manitoba may be regarded as the key stone of that mighty arch of sister provinces which spans the entire continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific. [Loud cheering]. It was here that Canada, emerging from her woods and forests, first gazed upon her rolling prairies and unexplored Northwest, and

learnt by an unexpected revelation that her historical territories of the coast, her eastern seaboard of New Brunswick, Labrador, Nova Scotia, her Lakes, bays and valleys, cornlands and pastures, though themselves more extensive than half a dozen kingdoms (immense applause) were but the vestibules and antechambers to that, till then, undreamt of Dominion, whose illimitable dimensions alike confound the arithmetic of the surveyor and the verification of the explorer. [Continued applause]. It was hence that, counting her achievements as but the preface and prelude to her future exertions and expanding destinies, she took a fresh departure, received the assiduity of a more Imperial inspiration, and felt herself no longer a mere settler along the banks of a single river, but the owner of half a continent, and, in the amplitude of her possession, in the wealth of her resources, in the sinews of her material might, the peer of any power on the earth. [Great cheering]. In a recently remarkable witty speech the Marquis of Salisbury alluded to the geographical misconceptions often engendered by the smallness of the maps upon which the figure of the world is depicted. To this cause is probably to be attributed the inadequate ideas entertained by the best educated persons of the extent of Her Majesty's North American possessions. Perhaps the best way of correcting such a universal misapprehension would be by a summary of the rivers which flow through them, for we know that as a poor man cannot afford to live in a big house so a small country cannot support a big river. [Applause]. Now to an Englishman or a Frenchman the Severn or the Thames, the Seine or the Rhone, would appear considerable streams, but in the Ottawa, a mere affluent of the St. Lawrence an affluent, moreover, which reaches the parent stream six hundred miles from its mouth, we have a river four hundred and fifty miles long and four times as big as any of them; but even after having ascended the St. Lawrence itself to Lake Ontario, and pursued its course across Lake Huron, the Niagara, the St. Clair, and Lake Superior to Thunder Bay, a distance of one thousand five hundred miles, where are we? In the estimation of the person who has made the journey, at the end of all things, [laughter,] but to us who know better, scarcely at the commencement of the great fluvial systems of the Dominion; far from that spot, that is to say from Thunder Bay, we are able to ship our astonished traveller on to the Kaministiquia, a river some hundred miles long. Thence almost in a straight line we launch him on to Lake Shebandowan and Rainy Lake and river—whose proper name by the way is "Rens," after the man who discovered it—a magnificent stream three hundred yards broad and a couple of hundred miles long, down whose tranquil bosom he floats into the Lake of the Woods, where he finds himself on a sheet of water which, though diminutive as compared with the inland seas which he has left behind him, will probably be found sufficiently extensive to render him fearfully seasick [loud laughter] during his passage across it. For the last eighty miles of his voyage, however, he will be consoled by sailing through a succession of land-locked channels, the beauty of whose scenery, while it resembles, certainly excels the far famed Thousand Islands of the St. Lawrence. [Great applause]. From this lacustrine paradise of sylvan beauty we are able at once to transfer our friend to the Winnipeg, a river whose existence in the very heart of the continent is in itself one of Nature's most extraordinary miracles, [applause,] so beautiful and varied are its rocky banks, its tufted islands, so broad, so deep, so fervid is the volume of its waters, the extent of its lake-like expansions, and the tremendous power of its rapids. [Loud cheering.] At last let us suppose that we have landed our traveller at the town of Winnipeg, the half-way house of the continent, the capital of the prairie provinces, and I trust the future "umbilicus" of the Dominion. [Long continued applause]. Having had so much of water, having now reached the home of the buffalo, like the extenuated Falstaff, he naturally "babbles of green-fields," [laughter and cheers], and careers in imagination over the primeval grasses of the prairie. Not at all. Escorted by Mr. Mayer and his town council we take him down to your quay and ask him which he will ascend first the Red river or the Assiniboine, two streams, the one five hundred miles long, the other four hundred and eighty, which so happily mingle their waters within your city limits. [Cheering]. After giving him a preliminary canter up these respective rivers we take him off to Lake Winnipeg, an inland sea three hundred miles long and upwards of sixty broad, during the navigation of which for many a weary hour he will find himself out of sight of land, and probably a good deal more seasick than ever he was on the Atlantic. [Loud laughter]. At the north-west angle of Lake Winnipeg he hits upon the mouth of the Saskatchewan, the gateway and high-road to the Northwest, and the starting point to another fifteen hundred miles of navigable water, flowing nearly due east between its alluvial banks. [Great applause]. Having now reached the foot of the Rocky Mountains our "ancient mariner," for by this time he will be quite entitled to such an appellation, [laughter], knowing that water cannot run up hill, feels certain his aquatic experiences are concluded. He was never more mistaken. [Laughter.] We immediately launch him on the Athabaska and Mackenzie rivers, and start him on a longer trip than any he has yet undertaken, the navigation of the Mackenzie river alone exceeding two thousand five hundred miles. If he survives this last experience, [laughter] we wind up his peregrinations by a concluding voyage of one thousand four hundred miles down the Fraser, or if he prefers it the Thompson river to Victoria, in Vancouver, whence, having previously provided him with a return ticket for that purpose, he will probably prefer



getting home via the Canadian Pacific. Now in this enumeration, those who are acquainted with the country are aware that for the sake of brevity I have omitted thousands of miles of other lakes and rivers, which waters various regions of the Northwest, the Qu'Appelle river, the Bolly river, Lake Manitoba, Lake Winnipegosis, Shoal Lake, etc., etc., along whose banks I might have dragged and finally exterminated our way-worn guest, [laughter.] But the sketch I have given is more than sufficient for my purpose, and when it is further remembered that the most of these streams flow for their entire length through alluvial plains of the richest description, where year after year wheat can be raised without manure, or any sensible diminution in its yield, and where the soil everywhere presents the appearance of a highly cultivated suburban kitchen garden in England, enough has been said to display the agricultural richness of the territories I referred to, and the capabilities they possess of affording happy and prosperous homes to millions of the human race. [Deafening applause.] But in contemplating the visit thus opened to our immigration, we must not forget that there ensues a corresponding expansion of our obligations. For instance, unless great care is taken, we shall find as we move westwards, that the exigencies of civilization may clash injuriously with the prejudices and traditional habits of our Indian fellow-subjects, [hear, hear.] As long as Canada was in the woods the Indian problem was comparatively easy; the progress of settlement was slow enough to give ample time and opportunity for arriving at an amicable and mutually convenient arrangement with each tribe with whom we successively came into contact but once out upon the plains colonization will advance with far more rapid and un governable strides, and it cannot fail eventually to interfere with the by no means inexhaustible supply of buffalo upon which so many of the Indian tribe are now dependant. Against this contingency it will be our most urgent and impressive duty to take timely precautions by enabling the red man not by any undue pressure, or hasty or ill-considered interference but by precept, example, and suasion, by gifts of cattle and other encouragements, to exchange the precarious life of a hunter for that of a pastoral and eventually that of an agricultural people. [Hear, hear and applause.] Happily in no part of Her Majesty's dominions are the relations existing between the white settler and the original natives and masters of the land so well understood or so generously interpreted as in Canada, and as a consequence instead of being a cause of anxiety and disturbance, the Indian tribes of the Dominion are regarded as a valuable adjunct to our strength and industry. Wherever I have gone in the Province—and since I have been here I have travelled nearly a thousand miles within your borders—I have found the Indians upon their several reserves, pretermittting a few petty grievances of a local character they thought themselves justified in preferring, contented and satisfied upon the most friendly terms with their white neighbors, and implicitly confiding in the good faith and paternal solicitude of the Government. [Applause.] In some districts I have learnt with pleasure that the Sioux, who some years since entered our territory under such sinister circumstances—I do not of course refer to the recent visit of Sitting Bull and his people—[laughter] are not only perfectly peaceable and well behaved but have turned into useful and hardworking laborers and harvestmen, [hear, hear] while in the more distant settlements the less domesticated bands of natives whether hunters, voyageurs, guides, purveyors of our furs and game, prove an appreciably advantageous element in the economical structure of the colony. [Applause.] There is no doubt that a great deal of the good feeling thus subsisting among the red men and ourselves is due to the influence and interposition of that invaluable class of men the half-breed settlers and pioneers of Manitoba [tremendous applause] who, combining as they do the hardihood, the endurance and love of enterprise generated by the strain of Indian blood in their veins, with the civilization, the instruction and the intellectual power derived from their fathers have preached the gospel of peace and goodwill, and mutual respect, with equally beneficent results, to the Indian chieftain in his lodge, and the British settler in his shanty. [Renewed applause.] They have been the ambassadors between the East and the West, the interpreters of civilization, and its exigencies, to the dwellers on the prairie, as well as the exponents to the white man of the consideration justly due to the susceptibilities, the sensitive self-respect, the prejudices, the innate craving for justice of the Indian race. [Continued applause.] In fact, they have done for the colony what otherwise would have been left unaccomplished, and have introduced between the white population and the red man a traditional feeling of amity and friendship which, but for them, it might have been impossible to establish. [Cheers.] Nor can I pass by the humane, kindly and considerate attention, which has ever distinguished the Hudson's Bay Company in its dealings with the native population. [Applause.] But though giving credit to those fortunate influences amongst the causes that are conducing to produce and preserve the happy result, the place of honor must be adjudged to that reasonable and generous policy which has been pursued by successive Governments of Canada towards the Indian, which at this moment is being superintended and carried out with so much tact, discretion, and ability by your present Lieut. Governor, [cheers] under which the extinction of the Indian title upon liberal terms has so nobly been recognized as a necessary preliminary to the occupation of a single square yard of native territory. But our Indian friends and neighbors are by no means the only alien communities in Manitoba.

which demand the solicitude of the Government, and excite our sympathies and anxiety. In close proximity to Winnipeg, two other communities, the Mennonites and Icelanders, starting from opposite ends of Europe, without either concert or communication, have sought fresh homes within our territory: the one of Russian nationality, though German race, moved by a desire to escape from the obligations of law which was repulsive to their conscience: the other bred amid the snows and ashes of an arctic volcano, by the hope of bettering their material condition. Although I have witnessed many nights to cause me pleasure during my various progress through the Dominion, seldom have I beheld any spectacle more pregnant with prophecy, more fought with the promise of an astonishing future than the Mennonite settlement. [Great applause.] When I visited those interesting people they had only been two years in the Province, and yet in a long ride I took across the prairie, which but yesterday was absolutely bare, desolate and untenanted, the home of the wolf, the badger, and the eagle, I passed village after village, homestead after homestead, furnished with all the conveniences and incidents of European comfort, and a scientific agriculture, while on either side the road cornfields already ripe for harvest, and pastures populous with herds of cattle, stretched away to the horizon. [Great cheering.] Even on this continent, the peculiar theatre of rapid change and progress, there has nowhere, I imagine, taken place so marvelous a transformation, [renewed cheers] and yet in your name and in the name of the Queen of England I bade these people welcome to their new homes, it was not the improvement in their material fortunes that preoccupied my thoughts. Glad as I was to have the power of applotting them so ample a portion of our teeming soil, which seems to blossom at a touch, [continued applause] and which they were cultivating to such manifest advantage, I felt infinitely prouder in being able to throw over them the aegis of the British constitution [loud cheering], and in bidding them freely share with us our unrivalled political institutions, our untrammelled personal liberty. [Renewed cheers.] We ourselves are so accustomed to breathe the atmosphere of freedom that it scarcely occurs to consider and appreciate our advantages in this respect. It is only when we are reminded by such incidents as that to which I refer, of the small extent of the world's surface over which the principles of parliamentary government can be said to work smoothly and harmoniously, that we are led to consider the exceptional happiness of our position. [Hear, hear.] Nor was my visit to the Icelandic community less satisfactory than that to our Mennonite fellow-subjects. From accidental circumstances I have been long led to take an interest in the history and literature of the Scandinavian race, and the kindness I once experienced at the hands of the Icelandic people in their own island naturally induced me to take a deep interest in the well-fare of this new immigration. [Applause.] When we take into account the secluded position of the Icelandic nation for the last thousand years, the unfavorable condition of their climate and geographical situation, it would not be unreasonable to expect that a colony from thence should exhibit the same aptitude for agricultural enterprise and settlement as would be possessed by a people fresh from intimate contact with the higher civilization of Europe. In Iceland there are neither trees, nor cornfields, nor highways. You cannot therefore, expect an Icelander to exhibit an inspired proficiency in felling trees, ploughing land, or making roads, yet unfortunately they are the three accomplishments most necessary to a colonist in Canada. But though starting at a disadvantage in these respects, you must not underrate the capacity of your new fellow-countrymen. They are endowed with a great deal of intellectual ability, and a quick intelligence. They are well educated. I scarcely entered a hovel at Gimli which did not possess a library. They are well conducted, religious and peaceable. Above all things they are docile and anxious to learn. [Applause.] Nor, considering the difficulty which prevails in this country in procuring women servants, will the accession of some hundreds of bright, good-humored, though perhaps awkward, yet willing, Icelandic girls, anxious for employment, be found a disadvantage by the resident ladies of the country. [Hear, hear.] Should the dispersion of these young people lead in course of time to the formation of more intimate and tenderer ties than those of mere neighborhood between the Canadian and the Icelandic colony, I am safe in predicting that it will not prove a matter of regret on the one side or the other. [Laughter and applause.] And gentlemen, in reference to this point, I cannot help remarking with satisfaction the extent to which a community of interests, the sense of being engaged in a common undertaking the obvious degree in which the prosperity of any one man is a gain to his neighbors, has amalgamated the various sections of the population of this Province, originally so diverse in race, origin and religion, into a patriotic, closely-wedded and united whole. [Applause and cheering.] In no part of Canada have I found a better feeling between all classes and sections of the community. [Cheers.] It is in a great measure owing to this widespread sentiment of brotherhood that on a recent occasion great troubles have been averted, while in the present moment it is finding its crowning and triumphant expression in the establishment of a University under the conditions which have been found impossible of application in any other Province of Canada. I may say in any other country in the world—for nowhere else, either in Europe or on the continent, as far as I am aware, have the bishop and heads of the various religious communities into which the Christian world is so unhappily divided, combined to erect an alma mater to

which all the denominations and sects of the Province are to be affiliated [great applause] and whose statutes and decrees are to be regulated and dispensed under the joint auspices of a governing body, in which all the churches of the land will be represented. An achievement of this kind speaks volumes in favor of the wisdom, liberality and the Christian charity of these devoted men by whom, in this distant land, the consciences of the population are led and enlightened, and long may they be spared to see the effect of their exertions and magnanimous sacrifices in the good conduct and grateful devotion of their respective flocks. [Loud applause.] Nor, I am happy to think, is this good fellowship upon which I have so much cause to congratulate you, confined either within the limit of the Province or even within those of the Dominion. Nothing struck me more on my way through St. Paul, in the United States, than the sympathetic manner in which the inhabitants of that flourishing city alluded to the progress and prospects of Canada and the Northwest, [great applause] and on arriving here I was equally struck by finding even a more exuberant counterpart of those friendly sentiments. [Renewed applause.] The reason is not far to seek. Quite independently of the genial intercourse promoted by neighborhood, and the intergrowth of commercial relations, a bond of sympathy between the two populations is created by the consciousness that they are both engaged in an enterprise of worldwide importance, that they are both organized corps in the ranks of humanity, and the wings of a great army, marching in line on a level front, that they are both engaged in advancing the standard of civilization westwards [applause], that for many a year to come they will be associated in the task of converting the breadths of prairie that stretch between them and the setting sun into one vast paradise of international peace, of domestic happiness, and material plenty. Between two communities thus occupied it is impossible but that amity and loving kindness should be begotten. [Applause.] But perhaps it will be asked how can I, who am the natural and official guardian of Canada's virtue, mark with satisfaction such dangerously sentimental proclivities towards her seductive neighbor? I will reply by appealing to those experienced matrons and chaperones I see around me. They will tell you that when a young lady expresses her frank admiration for a man, when she welcomes his approach with unconstrained pleasure, crosses the room to sit down beside him, presses him to join her picnic, praises him to her friends, there is not the slightest fear of her affections being entrapped by the gay deceiver. [Great laughter.] On the contrary, it is when she can scarcely be brought to mention his name—[renewed laughter]—when she avoids his society, when she alludes to him with malice and disparagement, that real danger is to be apprehended. [Uproarious laughter and applause.] No, no, Canada both loves and admires the United States, but it is with the friendly, frank affection which a heartwhole stately maiden feels for some big, boisterous, hobbledyho of a cousin, fresh from school, and elate with animal spirits and good nature. [Laughter.] She knows he is stronger and more muscular than herself, has lots of pocket money, can smoke cigars, and loaf around in public places in an ostentatious manner forbidden to the decorum of her situation. She admires him for his bigness and strength and prosperity, she likes to hear of his punning the heads of other boys. [renewed laughter] she anticipates and will be proud of his future success in life, and both likes him and laughs at him for his affectionate, loyal though somewhat patronizing friendship for herself [roars of laughter], but of no nearer connection does she dream, nor does his bulky image for a moment disturb her virginal meditations. In a world apart, secluded from all extraneous influences nestling at the feet of her majestic mother, Canada dreams her dream, and forbodes her destiny—a dream of ever-broadening harvests, multiplying towns and villages, and expanding pastures; of constitutional self-government, and a confederated Empire; of page after page of honorable history, added as her contribution to the annals of the mother country, and to the glories of the British race [tremendous applause], of a perpetuation for all time upon this continent of that temperate and well-balanced system of monarchical government, which combines in one mighty whole as the eternal possession of all Englishmen, the brilliant history and traditions of the past, with the freest and most untrammelled liberty of action in the future. [Long continued applause and cheers.]

## MARQUIS OF LORNE'S SPEECH.

To no Governor-General of Canada are Canadians more deeply indebted than to the Marquis of Lorne. During his term of office he lost no opportunity of acquainting himself with the resources of the Dominion and spreading abroad the information he had collected for the benefit of the colony. Nor has the worthy Lord relaxed his efforts in this direction since the expiration of his term as Governor-General. He has never lost an opportunity of telling the truth about the Dominion and pointing out for the benefit of intending immigrants the advantages to be secured by choosing their new homes in Canada, where it is acknowledged better agricultural advantages or freer institutions exist than in any country



now available for settlement. Probably no name is better known in the British Isles than that of Argyle, so that the traditions of the family, laying aside the personal worth of the Marquis of Lorne, are sufficient guarantee for the accuracy of any statements the talented nobleman may have made. The testimony of the Marquis cannot be better given than in his own words, when at Winnipeg on the 10th of October, 1881, after having traversed the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific, travelling nearly two thousand miles of the country on a buckboard, he made the speech which follows below. The occasion was a banquet tendered to him by the Manitoba club on the occasion of his return from his journey over the great fertile prairie country extending from Winnipeg west to the Rocky Mountains. It might be mentioned that his Royal wife, the Princess Louise, was prevented from accompanying him on his journey by an unfortunate accident which occurred a short time previous to His Excellency's tour, and to which His Lordship refers.

His Lordship said :—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—I beg to thank you most cordially for the pleasant reception you have given to me on my return to Winnipeg and for the words in which you proposed my health and have expressed a hope for the complete recovery of the Princess from the effects of that unfortunate accident which took place at Ottawa. I know that the Canadian people will always remember that it was in sharing the duties incurred in their service that the Princess received injuries which have, I trust only temporarily, so much impaired her health. Two years hence the journey I have undertaken will be as easy one to accomplish throughout its length for all, while at present the facilities of railway and steam accommodation only suffice for half of it. For a Canadian, official knowledge of the Northwest is indispensable. To be ignorant of the Northwest is to be ignorant of the greater portion of your country. [Applause.] Hitherto I have observed that those who have seen it justly look down on those who have not, with a kind of pitying contempt which you may sometimes have observed in they who have got up earlier in the morning than others, and seen some beautiful sunrise assume towards the friends who have slept until the sun is high in the heavens. [Laughter.] Our track though it led as far, only enabled us to see a very small portion of your heritage now being made accessible. Had time permitted we should have explored the immense country which lies along the whole course of the wonderful Saskatchewan which with its two gigantic branches, opens to steam navigation settlements of rapidly growing importance. As it was we touched the waters of the north and south branches and striking south-westwards availed ourselves of the American railway line in Montana for our return. It was most interesting to compare the southern mountains and prairies with our own, and not even the terrible events which have recently cast so deep a gloom upon our neighbors, as well as ourselves, could prevent our kinsmen from showing that hospitality and courtesy which makes a visit to their country so great a pleasure. [Loud applause.] I am more glad to bear witness to this courtesy in the presence of the distinguished consul of the United States, who is your guest this evening, and who, in this city, so honorably represents his country [applause] in nothing more than in this, that he has never misrepresented our own. [Loud applause.] Like almost all his compatriots who occupy by the suffrage of their people official positions he has recognized that fact which is happily acknowledged by all of standing amongst ourselves that the interest of the British Empire and of the United States may be advanced side by side without jealousy or friction and that the good of the one is interwoven with the welfare of the other. We have with the Americans not only a common descent, but a similar position on this continent and a like probable destiny. The community of feeling reaches beyond the fellowship arising from the personal interest attaching to the dignity of a high office sustained with honor, and to the reverence of the tender ties of hearth and home sacred though these be, for Canadians and Americans have each a common aim and a common ideal. Though belonging to very different political schools and preferring to advance by very different paths, we both desire to live only in a land of perfect liberty. [Loud cheers.] When the order which ensures freedom is disordered by the cowardly rancour of the murderer, or by the tyranny of faction, the blow touches more than one life, and strikes over a wider circle than that where its nearer and immediate consequences are apparent. The people of the United States have been directed into one political organization, and we are cherishing and developing another; but they will find no men with whom a closer and more living sympathy with their triumphs or with their troubles abides, than their Canadian cousins in the Dominion. [Cheers.] Let this be so in the days of unborn generations, and may we never have again to express our horror at such a deed of infamy as that which has lately called forth in so striking a manner the proof of international respect and affection. [Hear, hear.] To pass to other themes awakening no unhappy recollections, you will expect me to mention a few of the impressions made upon us by what we have seen during the last few weeks. Beautiful as are the numberless lakes and illimitable forests of Keewatin—the land of the north wind, to the east of you—yet it was pleasant to “get behind the north wind” [laughter] and to reach your open plains.

The contrast is great between the utterly silent and shadowy solitudes of the pine and fir forests, and the sunlight of breezy ocean and meadowland, voiceful with the music of birds, which stretches onward from the neighborhood of your city. In Keewatin the lumber industry and mining enterprise can alone be looked for, and here it is impossible to imagine any kind of work which shall not produce results equal to those attained in any of the great cities of the world. [Great cheering.] Unknown a few years ago except for some differences which had arisen among its people, we see Winnipeg now with a population unanimously joining in happy concord, and rapidly lifting it to the front rank amongst the commercial centres of the continent. We may look in vain elsewhere for a situation so favorable and so commanding—many as are the fair regions of which we can boast. [Loud cheers.] There may be some among you before whose eyes the whole wonderful panorama of our provinces has passed—the ocean-garden island of Prince Edward, the magnificent valleys of the St. John and Sussex—the marvellous country, the home of “Evangeline,” where Blomidon looks down on the tides of Fundy, and over tracts of red soil richer than the wold of Kent. You may have seen the fortified Paradise of Quebec, and Montreal, whose prosperity and beauty is worthy of her great St. Lawrence, and you may have admired the well-wrought and splendid Province of Ontario, and rejoice at the growth of her capital, Toronto, and yet nowhere will you find a situation whose natural advantages promise so great a future as that which seems insured to Manitoba and to Winnipeg, the Heart city of our Dominion. [Tremendous cheering.] The measureless meadows which commence here stretch without interruption of the good soil westward to your boundary. The Province is a green sea over which the summer winds pass in waves of rich grasses and flowers, and on this vast extent it is only as yet here and there that a yellow patch shows some gigantic wheat field. [Loud cheering.] Like a great net cast over the whole are the bands and clumps of poplar wood which are everywhere to be met with, and which, no doubt, when the prairie fires are more carefully guarded against, will, wherever they are wanted, still further adorn the landscape. [Cheers.] The meshes of this wood-netting are never further than twenty or thirty miles apart. Little hay swamps and sparkling lakelets, teeming with wild fowl, are always close at hand, and if the surface water in some of these has alkali, excellent water can always be had in others, and by the simple process of digging for it, a short distance beneath the sod with a spade, the soil being devoid of stones that it is not even necessary to use a pick. No wonder that under these circumstances we hear no croaking. Croakers are very rare animals throughout Canada. It was remarked by surprise by an Englishman accustomed to British grumbling, that even the frogs sing instead of croaking in Canada. [Great cheering.] and the few letters that have appeared speaking of disappointment will be among the rarest autographs which the next generation will cherish in their museums. But even with the best troops of the best army in the world you will find a few maligners—a few skulkers. However well an action has been fought you will hear officers who have been engaged say that there were some men whose idea seemed to be that it was easier to conduct themselves as became them at the rear, rather than in the front. [Laughter and applause.] So there have been a few lonely and lazy voices raised in the stranger press dwelling upon your difficulties and ignoring your triumphs. These have appeared from the pens of men who have failed in their own countries and have failed here, who are born failures, and will fail till life fails them. [Laughter and applause.] They are like the soldiers who run away from the best armies seeking to spread discomfiture, which exists only in those things they call their minds—[Laughter]—and who running to the city say their comrades are defeated, or if they are not beaten, they should in their opinion be so. We have found, as we expected, that their tales are not worthy the credence even of the timid. [Applause.] There was not one person who had manfully faced the first difficulties—always far less than those to be encountered in the older provinces—but said that he was getting on well and he was glad he had come, and he generally added that he believed his bit of the country must be the best, and that he only wished his friends could have the same good fortune for his expectations were more than realized. [Cheers and laughter.] It is well to remember that the men who will succeed here as in every young community are usually the able-bodied and that their entry on their new field of labor should be when the field is young. Men advanced in life and coming from the Old country will find their comfort best consulted by the ready accommodation to be obtained by the purchase of a farm in the old provinces. All that the settler in Manitoba would seem to require is that he should look out for a locality where there is good natural drainage, and ninety-nine hundredths of the country has this, and that he should be able readily to procure in Winnipeg or elsewhere, some light pump like those used in Abyssinia for the easy supply of water from a depth of a few feet below the surface. Alkali in the water will never hurt his cattle, and dykes of earth and the planting of trees would everywhere insure him and them the shelter that may be required. Five hundred dollars should be his own to spend on his arrival, unless as an artisan he comes here. I find that like the happy masons now to be found in Winnipeg, he can get the wages of a British Army Colonel, by putting up houses as fast as brick, wood and mortar can be got together. Favorable testimony to the climate was everywhere given. The heavy night dews throughout the Northwest keep the country

green when everything is burned to the south, and the steady winter cold, although it sounds formidable when registered by the thermometer, is universally said to be far less trying than the cold to be encountered at the old English Puritan city of Boston, in Massachusetts. If it is the moisture in the atmosphere which makes cold tell, and the Englishman who, with the thermometer at zero, would, in his moist atmosphere be shivering, would here find one flannel shirt sufficient clothing while working. I never like to make comparisons and am always unwillingly driven to do so, although it seems to be the natural vice of the well travelled Englishmen. Over and over again have I been asked in Canada if such and such a bay was not wonderfully like the Bay of Naples for the inhabitants had often been told so. I always professed to be unable to see the resemblance, of course entirely out of deference to the susceptibilities of the Italian nation. So one of our party, a Scotchman, whenever in the Rocky Mountains he saw some grand pyramid or gigantic rock, ten or eleven thousand feet in height, would exclaim that the one was the very image of Arthur's Seat and the other of Edinburgh Castle. With the fear of Ontario before my eyes I would therefore never venture to compare a winter here to those of our greatest province, but I am bound to mention that when a friend of mine put the question to a party of sixteen Ontario men who had settled in the western portion of Manitoba, as to the comparative merits of the cold season in the two provinces—fourteen of them voted for the Manitoba climate, and only two elderly men said that they preferred that of Toronto. You will see now what is sometimes called that very unequal criterion of right and justice, a large majority determines this question. Now although we are present in Manitoba and Manitoba interests may dominate our thoughts, yet you may not object to listen for a few moments to our experience of the country which lies farther to the west. To the present company the assertion may be a bold one, but they will be sufficiently tolerant to allow me to make it, if it goes no further, and I therefore say that we may seek for the main chance elsewhere than in Main street. The future fortunes of this country beyond this Province bear directly upon its prosperity. Although you may not be able to dig for four feet through the same character of black loam that you have here when you get to the country beyond Fort Ellice, yet in its main features it is the same right up to the forks of the Saskatchewan. I deeply regret that I was not able to visit Edmonton, which bids fair to rival any place in the Northwest. Settlement is increasing there, and I met at Battleford one man alone who had commissions from ten Ontario farmers to buy for them at that place. Nothing can exceed the fertility and excellence of the land along almost the whole course of that great river, and to the north of it in the wide strip belting its banks and extending up to the Peace river, there will be room for a great population whose opportunities for profitable cultivation of the soil will be most enviable. The netting of wood of which I have spoken as covering all the prairie between Winnipeg and Battleford is beyond that point drawn up upon the shores of the prairie sea, and lies in masses of fine forest in the gigantic half circle formed by the Saskatchewan and the Rockies. It is only in secluded valleys, on the banks of large lakes, and in river bottoms that much wood is found in the far west, probably owing to the prevalence of fires. These are easily preventable, and there is no reason why plantations should not flourish there in good situations as well as elsewhere. Before I leave the Saskatchewan let me advert to the ease with which the steam navigation of that river can be vastly improved. At present there is only one boat at all worthy of the name of a river steamer upon it, and this steamer lies up during the night. A new company is, I am informed, now being organized, and there is no reason why, if the new vessels are properly equipped and furnished with electric lights, which may now be cheaply provided, they should not keep up a night and day service, so that the settlers at Prince Albert, Edmonton, and elsewhere may not have, during another season, to suffer great privations incident to the wants of transportation which has loaded the banks of Grand Rapids during the present year with freight, awaiting steam transport. The great cretaceous coal seams at the headwaters of the rivers rising in the Rocky Mountains or in their neighborhood, and flowing towards your doors, should not be forgotten. Although you have some coal in districts nearer you, we should remember that on the headwaters of these streams there is plenty of the same which can be floated down to you before you have a complete railway system. Want of time as well as a wish to see the less vaunted parts of the country took me south-westward from Battleford, over land which in many of the maps is variously marked as consisting of arid plains or as a continuation of the "American Desert." The newer maps especially those containing the explorations of Prof. Macoun, have corrected this wholly erroneous idea. For two days' march—that is to say for about 60 or 70 miles south of Battleford we passed over land whose excellence could not be excelled for agricultural purposes. Thence to the neighborhood of the Red Deer Valley the soil is lighter, but still in my opinion in most places good for grain—in any case most admirable for summer pasture, and it will certainly be good also for stock in winter as soon as it will pay to have hay stored in the valleys. The whole of it has been the favorite feeding ground of the buffalo. Their tracks from watering place to watering place, never too far apart from each other, were everywhere to be seen, while in very many tracks their dung lay so thickly that the appearance of the ground was only comparable to that of an English farm yard. Let us hope that the ~~country~~ will not be

long before the disappearance of the buffalo on these scenes, is followed by the appearance of domestic herds. The Red Deer valley is especially remarkable as traversing a country where, according to the testimony of Indian chiefs travelling with us, snow never lies for more than three months, and the heavy growth of poplar in the bottoms, the quantity of the "bull," or high cranberry bushes, and the rich bunches that hang from the choke cherries showed us that we had come into that part of the Dominion which among the plainsmen is designated as "God's country." From this onward to the Bow river and thence to the frontier line the trail led through what will be one of the most valued of our Provinces subject to those warm winds called the "chincoks." The settler will hardly use anything but wheeled vehicles during winter, and throughout a great portion of the land early sowing—or fall sowing—will be all that will be necessary to ensure him against early frosts. At Calgary, a place interesting at the present time as likely to be upon that Pacific Railway line which will connect you with the Pacific and give you access to "those vast shore beyond the farthest sea," the shore of Asia, a good many small herds of cattle have been introduced within the last few years. During this year a magnificent herd of between six and seven thousand has been brought in, and the men who attended them and who came from Montana, Oregon and Texas, all averred that their opinion of their new rancho was higher than that of any with which they had been acquainted in the south. Excellent crops have been raised by men who had sown not only in the river bottoms, but also upon the so-called "bench" lands or plateau above. This testimony was also given by others on the way to Fort Macleod and beyond it, thus closing most satisfactorily the song of praise we had heard from practical men throughout our whole journey of 1,200 miles. Let me advert for one moment to some of the causes which have enabled settlers to enjoy in such peace the fruits of their industry. Chief amongst these must be reckoned the policy of kindness and justice which was inaugurated by the Hudson Bay Company in their treatment of the Indians. There is one of the cases in which a trader's association has upheld the maxim that "honesty is the best policy" even when you are dealing with savages. The wisdom and righteousness of their dealing on enlightened principles, which are fully followed out by their servants to-day, gave the cue to the Canadian Government. The Dominion to-day through her Indian officers and her mounted constabulary is showing herself the inheritress of those traditions. She has been fortunate in organizing the Mounted Police Force, a corps of whose services it would be impossible to speak too highly. A mere handful in that vast wilderness, they have at all times shown themselves ready to go anywhere and do anything. They have often had to act on occasions demanding the combined individual pluck and prudence rarely to be found amongst any soldiery, and there has not been a single occasion on which any member of the force has lost his temper under trying circumstances, or has not fulfilled his mission as a guardian of the peace. Several journeys in winter and difficult arrests have had to be effected in the centre of savage tribes, and not once has the moral prestige which was in reality their only weapon, been found insufficient to cope with the difficulties which, in America, have often baffled the efforts of whole columns of armed men. I am glad of this opportunity to name these men as well worthy of Canada's regard as sons who have well maintained her name and fame. And now that you have had the patience to listen to me, and we have crossed the continent together, let me advise you as soon as possible to get up a branch horse, situated amongst our Rocky Mountains, where, during summer, your members may form themselves into an Alpine club and thoroughly enjoy the beautiful peaks and passes of our Alps. In the railway you will have a beautiful approach to the Pacific. The line after traversing for days the plains, will come upon the rivers whose sheltering valleys have all much the same character. The river beds are like great moats in a modern fortress—you do not see them till you close upon them. As in the glacis and rampart of a fortress, the shot can search across the two levels above the river fosses. The streams run coursing along the sunken levels in these vast ditches, which are sometimes miles in width. Sheltered by the undulating banks, knells, or cliffs which form the margin of their excavated bounds, are woods, generally of poplar, except in the northern and western fir fringe. On approaching the Mountains their snow caps look like huge tents encamped along the rolling prairie. Up to this great camp, of which a length of 200 miles is sometimes visible, the rivers wind in trenches, looking like the covered ways by which siege works zig-zag up to a besieged city. On a nearer view the camp line changes to ruined marble palaces, and through their tremendous wall and giant woods you will soon be dashing on the train and in winter basking on the warm Pacific coast. You have a country whose value it would be insanity to question, and which, to judge from the emigration taking place from the older Provinces, will be indissolubly linked with them. It must support a vast population. If we calculate from the progress we have already made in comparison with them on the new areas now open to us. We have now four million four hundred thousand people, and these, with the exception of the comparatively small numbers as yet in this Province, are restricted to the old area. Yet for the last ten years our increase has been over 18 per cent., whereas during the same period all the New England States taken together have shown an increase only of 15 per cent. In the last thirty years in Ohio the increase has been 35 per cent. Ontario's during that space of time 101 per cent. of increase.



while Quebec has increased 52 per cent. Manitoba in ten years has increased 239 per cent., a greater rate than any hitherto attained, and to judge from this year's experience is likely to increase to an even more wonderful degree during the following decade. Statistics are at all times wearisome, but are not these full of hope? Are they not facts giving just ground for that pride in our progress which is conspicuous among our people, and ample reason for our belief that the future may be allowed to take care of itself. They who pour out prophecies of change prescribing medicines for a sound body, are wasting their gifts and their time. It is among strangers that we hear such theories propounded by destiny men. With you the word "annexation" has in the last years only been heard in connection with the annexation of more territory to Manitoba. I must apologize to a Canadian audience for mentioning the word at all in any connection. In America the annexation of this country is disavowed by all responsible leaders. As it was well expressed to me lately the best men of the States desire only to annex the friendship and good will of Canada. [Loud cheers.] To be sure it may be otherwise with the camp followers; they often talk as if the swallowing and digestion of Canada by them were only a question of time, and of rising treason amongst us. How far the power of the camp-followers extends it is not for us to determine. They have, however, shown that they are powerful enough to capture a few English writers, our modern minor prophets who, in little magazine articles, are fond of teaching the nations how to behave, whose words preach the superiority of other countries to their own, and the approximate dismemberment of that British Empire which has the honor to acknowledge them as citizens. They have with our American friends of whom I speak, at all events one virtue in common, they are great speculators. In the case of our southern friends this is not a matter to be deplored by us, for American speculation has been of direct material benefit to Canada, and we must regret that our American citizens are not coming over to us as fast as are the Scotch, the Irish, the Germans, and the Scandinavians. Morally, also, it is not to be deplored that such speculations are made, for they show that it is thought that Canadians would form a useful though unimportant wing for one of the great parties; and, moreover, such prophecies clothe with importance "the dry bones" of discussion. But it is best always to take men as we find them and not to believe that they will be different even if a kindly feeling, first for ourselves and afterwards for them, should make us desire to change them. Let us rather judge from the past and from the present than take flights, unguided by experience, into the imaginary regions of the future. What do we find has been, and is, the tendency of the peoples of this continent? Does not history show, and do not modern and existing tendencies declare that the lines of cleavage among them lie along the lines of latitude? Men spread from east to west, and from east to west the political lines, which mean the lines of diversity, extend. The central spaces are, and will be yet more, the great centres of population. Can it be imagined that the vast centre lives of men will allow the eastern or western seaboard people to come between them with separate empire, and shut them out in any degree with full and free intercourse with the markets of the world beyond them? Along the line of longitude no such tendencies exist. The markets of the North Pole are not as yet productive, and with South America commerce is comparatively small. The safest conclusion if conclusions are to be drawn at all, is that what has hitherto been, will, in the nature of things, continue, that, whatever separations exist will be marked by zones of latitude. For other evidence we must search in vain. Our county councils, the municipal corporations, the local provincial chambers, the central Dominion Parliament, and last not least a perfectly unfettered press, are all free channels for the expression of the feelings of our citizens. Why is it that in each and all of these reflectors of thoughts of men, we see nothing but determination to keep and develop the precious heritage we have in our own constitution so capable of any development which the people may desire. Let us hear Canadians if we wish to speak for them. These public bodies and the public press are the mouthpieces of the people's mind. Let us not say for them what they never say for themselves. It is no intentional misrepresentation which has produced these curious examples of the fact that individual prepossessions may distort public proof. It reminds me of an interpretation once said to have been given by a bad interpreter of a speech delivered by a savage warrior, who in a very dignified and extremely lengthy discourse expressed the contentment of his tribe with the order and with the good that had been introduced against them by the law of the white man. His speech was long enough fully to impress with its meaning and its truth all who took pains to listen to him, and who could understand his language, but the interpreter had unfortunately different ideas of his own, and was displeased with his own individual treatment, when at last he was asked what the chief and his council had said in their eloquent orations, he turned round and only exclaimed—"He dam displeased!" [Great laughter.] And what did his councillors say? "They dam displeased!" [Roars of laughter.] No, gentlemen, let each man in public or literary life, in both nations do all that in him lies to cement their friendship so essential for their mutual welfare. But this cannot be cemented by the publication of vain vaticinations. This great part of our great Empire has a natural and warm feeling for our republican brethren; whose fathers parted from us a century ago in anger and

bloodshed. May this natural affection never die. It is like the love which is borne by a younger brother to an elder, so long as the big brother behaves handsomely and kindly. I may possibly know something of the nature of such affection, for as the eldest of a round dozen, I have had experience of the fraternal relation as exhibited by an unusual number of younger brothers. Never have I known that fraternal tie to fail, but even its strength has its natural limit, so Canada's affection may be measured. None of my younger brothers, however fond of me, would voluntarily ask that his prospects should be altogether overshadowed and swallowed up by mine. So Canada, in words which our neighbors understand, wishes to be their friend but does not desire to become their food. She rejoices in the big brother's strength and status, but is not anxious to nourish it by offering up her own body in order that it may afford him, when over-hungry, that happy festival he is in the habit of calling a "square meal." [Loud laughter.] I must ask you once more to allow me, gentlemen, to express my acknowledgements for this entertainment. It affords another indication of the feelings with which the citizens of Winnipeg regard any person who has the honor as the head of the Canadian Government to represent the Queen, [cheers], you recognize in the Governor-General the sign and symbol of the union which binds together in one the free and kindred peoples whom God has set over famous lakes and over fertile spaces of mighty continents. I have touched in speaking to you on certain vaticinations and certain advice given by a few good strangers to Canadians on the subject of the future of Canada. Gentlemen, I believe that Canadians are well able to take care themselves of their future, and the outside world had better listen to them instead of promulgating weak and wild theories of its own. [Loud applause.] But however, uncertain and I may add, foolish may be such forecasts, of one thing we may be sure, which is this, that the country you call Canada, and which your sons and your children's children will be proud to know by that name, is a land which will be a land of power among the nations; [cheers], mistress of a zone of territory favorable for the maintenance of a numerous and homogenous white population. Canada must judge from the increase in that strength during the past, and from the many and vast opportunities for the growth of her strength on her new provinces in the future, be great and worthy her position on the earth. Affording the best and safest highway between Asia and Europe, she will see traffic from both directed to her coasts. With a hand upon either ocean she will gather from each for the benefit of her hardy millions a large share of the commerce of the world. To the east and to the west she will pour forth of her abundance, the treasures of her food and the richness of her mines and of her forests, demanded of her by the less fortunate of mankind. I esteem those men favored indeed, who, in however slight a degree have had the honor, or may be yet called upon to take part in the councils of the statesmen who in this early era of history, are moulding this nation's laws in the forms approved by its representatives. For me, I feel that I can be ambitious of no higher title than to be known as one who administered its Government in thorough sympathy with the hopes and aspirations of its first founders and in perfect consonance with the will of its free parliament. [Cheers.] I ask for no better lot than to be remembered by its people as rejoicing in the gladness born of their independence and of their loyalty. I desire no other reputation than that which may belong to him who sees his own dearest wishes in process of fulfilment in their certain progress, in their undisturbed peace, and in their ripening grandeur.

### LORD LANSDOWNE'S SPEECH.

Following the example of both his distinguished predecessors in office, Lord Lansdowne the present Governor-General of Canada made last autumn a complete tour of the Northwest Territories including Manitoba and British Columbia. He was accompanied by Lord Melgund, his distinguished military secretary, whose pen has not been silent on the capabilities of Canada, since its possession has become familiar therewith. His Excellency made the tour immediately after the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, that great iron highway which links the provinces of Canada together and binds more closely the ties of Confederation the strength of which has been steadily developing since the union in 1867. The railway therefore being completed His Excellency was enabled to board his special train at Ottawa and proceed without stopping (if he had so desired) clear through to the Pacific coast, traversing the Muskoka district, the region north of Lake Superior, the Thunder Bay section, the fertile provinces of Manitoba and the Northwest territories, the Rocky and Selkirk ranges of Mountains and through the forests of British Columbia to the Pacific coast, an approximate distance of about 3,000 miles. But with the anxiety of predecessors to see all the country possible he stopped at points along the route, and under the escort of the Mounted Police, he travelled in a buckboard (that primitive though

still popular mode of prairie travel) over many hundred miles of the most fertile belts of agricultural and grazing lands: thus being afforded an opportunity of seeing and judging for himself the capabilities of our territories. Upon his return by way of Winnipeg he was tendered by the citizens of that prosperous city, a dejeuner at which several thousand sat down. Replying to the toast of "our guest" His Excellency gave his impressions of the country in the following speech:—

MR. CHAIRMAN, YOUR HONOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—The magnificent reception with which you have welcomed me back to Winnipeg, the appearance of your thoroughfares last night, the illumination of so many of your public buildings and private residences, and last, but not least, this splendid entertainment, have left a very deep impression upon my mind. Permit me to add that if anything was wanting to give completeness to that reception I have found it in the eloquent remarks which fell just now from Mr. Consul Taylor. [Applause.] Let me before I go further thank him cordially for what he has said; let me assure him that no ambition is nearer to my heart than that while I have the honor of being connected with the public affairs of the Dominion of Canada its relation with the great Republic which adjoins may be of the most intimate and amicable character. [Applause.] Let me, too, corroborate what he has said as to the action of the Government of the United States during the somewhat critical period through which we passed during the present summer. I am very glad that he has given me this opportunity of publicly acknowledging our obligations to his Government in this respect. Let me also join with him in expressing my hope that the negotiations now in progress between the Dominion and the Government of Washington for a renewal of commercial relations—negotiations which I believe have been entered upon in the spirit of the utmost confidence and good will on both sides—may be carried to a successful issue. Mr. Chairman, your city had already given me its formal welcome as I was passing through it on my way westwards. No want of respect would have been shown if you had let me pass through Winnipeg a second time unhonored and unnoticed. You have, however, given me on my return from a holiday trip a welcome which a victorious general would not have dispised. But sir, I think your citizens felt that their feelings of loyalty to the Queen required something more than those formal manifestations which usage has consecrated, and it is for that reason that last night and to-day you have met the Queen's representative with these remarkable manifestations of your good will. [Great applause.] In your kindness to me there is perhaps a slight element of cruelty for I feel entirely unequal to the task of saying anything to you worthy of the occasion. I may say, indeed, that during the few weeks which have elapsed since I last had the pleasure of meeting you I have travelled over so much ground and encountered such a number of novel experiences and excitements that I feel as if I stood more in need of the quiet retirement of my study than of an opportunity of making public speeches. It may interest you to know how we have been spending our time since we saw you last, and if you care to listen a few moments to what I fear will amount to a bare and unornamented enumeration of the different stages of our journey, I am quite ready to make it. I shall be content if the knowledge that it is possible to see so much that is wonderful and attractive within a very few days inspires some of you to follow in our footsteps and to know a little more of the marvellous country which is yours. Our first object after leaving Winnipeg was to visit the two branch lines, which, leaving the main track at Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie, respectively traverse the northwestern and southwestern portions of this Province. We travelled to Manitou by the one, and for a few miles beyond Minnedosa by the other. Let me, in the first place, say how glad I am to find that the construction of those branch railways is proceeding so satisfactorily. Branch lines of railway are absolutely necessary if the resources of this country are to be properly developed. [Loud applause.] They are as necessary to the main line as limbs are to the human trunk. That is a conclusion which I think your own people have expressed pretty distinctly on many occasions. It is indeed perfectly obvious that the finest wheat land in the world will be next door to valueless if its distance from a railway station is so great as to impose what is virtually a prohibitive tax upon every bushel of grain which is carried to market. Travelling along both of these lines and again in the neighborhood of Brandon, I saw a greater extent of first rate arable land than I had ever been my good fortune to look upon before. [Applause.] I do not mean by this to say that all the land through which we passed was of the same first rate quality. There was, on the contrary, and particularly in close proximity to the tracks which often followed gravelly and comparatively unproductive ridges, a good deal of thinner and apparently poorer soil. A great deal of it, however, is of extraordinary richness. I may also observe that at some points and notably in the neighborhood of Minnedosa there is much agreeable scenery and undulating land relieved by copsewood and lake, and likely to prove attractive to those who object as some settlers probably will do, to the monotony of the flat prairie. [Hear, hear.] During our journey through these districts I had the opportunity of meeting and conversing with a considerable number of the settlers, and was glad to find them, almost without exception, hopeful and full of faith in the future of their adopted

country. We heard, it is true, a good deal with regard to the injury done to the crop by early frosts and there can be no doubt that in certain districts that injury has been serious. I do not, however, believe for a moment that this obstacle, of which I do not wish to underestimate the importance, is going to be fatal to the cultivation of wheat in this Province. That is, I think, the opinion of the settlers themselves, and I must say that I was delighted to find that even where the injury was greatest those who had suffered it, far from admitting that this deficiency was an insurmountable one, were addressing themselves in a manly and courageous spirit to the task of divining means by which they might counteract it in the future. And I have no doubt that they will succeed. I say this not because I wish to pretend to any special knowledge of agriculture, but because I know that in all parts of the world agriculturalists have found it necessary to adapt the methods which they pursue to the local requirements of the districts in which they have to live. This is the case with regard to the breeding of stocks as well as the raising of crops, and I have no doubt that in time the farmers of Manitoba and the Northwest will find it possible to adopt a system of wheat growing by which they will contrive to elude the enemy which has up to the present time punished them so severely in some districts. We must recollect in the first place, that it by no means follows that, because there have been early frosts during the last three seasons, that they will always recur at the same time of the year. We have lately had in the old country four or five wet summers in succession, but no one believes for a moment that they will continue for an indefinite time. There is no district in the world in which agriculture is pursued subject to some drawbacks, and it is probable that in this country there will always be a certain amount of injury from this particular cause. The whole matter, however, lies within a very small compass. A fortnight's earlier maturity, whether obtained by the selection of a different variety of grain or by earlier sowing, would, I fancy, get rid of the trouble altogether. The visitations of the frost are also, we must remember very partial in their character. We saw many samples of first-rate quality grown on lands adjoining those where the damage had been greatest, and I have heard the opinion expressed by some good judges that, as the area of cultivated land in this country increases, and the subsoil becomes more generally broken up, we shall find that the land will become drier, and consequently more and more free from frosts. It is also to be remembered that in many cases the grain which has suffered most has been grown upon newly broken land; upon which after the seed has been thoroughly pulverized by one or two more croppings we may fairly expect to see the berry ripen earlier than it does at present. We should at any rate not allow ourselves to be over-frightened. [Hear, hear.] I may say that I think a good deal of responsibility rests upon those who have been unlucky in this respect at once write to the newspapers and represent this country as a frost-bitten wilderness, and warning intending settlers from coming near it. This part of the Dominion has indeed been injured seriously both by those who take a much too gloomy and those who take a much too sanguine view of its prospects. I scarcely know which does most mischief, the false impression created by hasty generalizations founded upon exceptional cases such as those which I have described or of the over-colored accounts of the advantages enjoyed by settlers in the Northwest which one sometimes reads—[hear, hear]—and which represent your prairies as possessing a soil and climate such as those which the ancient poets ascribed as the Islands of the Blest, where the earth bore its fruit without the husbandman's toil and the vineyards flourished untouched by the pruning knife. We cannot indeed form any estimate of the future of wheat growing in this country without the utmost caution. The fall in the prices of wheat, which, I hope, touched the bottom last year, must indeed have caused many of us to pause and ask ourselves whether the time might not come when, in the face of such prices, it would become impossible, even with the finest soil in the world, to grow a bushel of wheat at a remunerative price. If you care for my opinion, I will give it to you for what it is worth: I am inclined to think that for some time to come the price of wheat is likely to rule low, probably not much higher than it does at present. That is, however, a state of things which must in time pass away. The relations in which the demand for and the supply of this great staple of human food stand to each other, must inevitably fluctuate from time to time. Sometimes there will be too many mouths to feed, and not enough food to put into them; sometimes when great additions are suddenly made to the food-producing area, the supply increases suddenly and altogether outstrips the demand. That has been the case within the last few years. From the Western States of America and from British India enormous supplies of wheat grows probably at a very small profit have been poured into the markets of the world. There are several considerations of which we should not lose sight. In the first place the number of mouths is always increasing, and for the present at all events there is nothing to show that the increase is likely to be arrested. The time must come, when to some extent at all events, the demand must again tend to overtake the supply. I was told the other day upon excellent authority, that at the present time the United States consumed all but 5 per cent of the total amount of wheat and corn produced within them. The time will come when this part of the Dominion will be fully occupied by settlers just as in the case of the Western States settlement followed upon the construction of the great continental lines, and then you will require here an annually increasing proportion of the cereals which you



are able to produce. The old world is coming every year to depend more and more upon the new for its food supplies. It is more especially in the old country that the proportion of imported food stuffs shows a phenomenal increase. Twenty years ago we imported wheat and wheat flour to the value of £27,000,000. We now import it to the value of £80,000,000. [Applause.] Twenty years ago we imported a million and a half hundreds-weight of meat; we now require six million hundreds weight. [Applause.] The total value of the food stuffs imported by Great Britain in 1883 reached the enormous total of £171,000,000 and that figure you may depend upon it is one which will increase rather than diminish as the population of Great Britain becomes larger. Those food supplies are drawn from almost every country of the world. Now I had occasion the other day in addressing an Ontario audience to point out a very small proportion of this sum represented imports from British North America. Of that total about 20 per cent, comes to us from the United States, about 10 per cent from Germany, about 8 per cent, from British India while from British North America we take only a little over 3 per cent. Taking the case of wheat and wheat flour alone our total imports reach the value of £44,000,000. Of this we take 3 per cent. only from the farmers of this country. I cannot bring myself to believe that this state of things will continue. There are many indications that it is not likely to do so, and that we will be obliged as time goes on to look more and more to the broad acres of this country for our supplies of food. [Applause.] I am a little nervous in speaking about the United States before my friend Mr. Consul Taylor, but unless we are misinformed, the soil in many parts of the United States, which now sends us our largest supplies of wheat and flour, is showing signs of exhaustion and yielding a yearly diminishing return. It now stands a little over 12 bushels to the acre, and we must not forget that in States land for nothing is a thing of the past. If you compare the position of a Canadian settler with his free homestead, his unexhausted soil, and a yield which we may take, I think, without being over sanguine, at 20 bushels to the acre, with his competitor in the States producing between 12 or 13 bushels, upon land which has been mercilessly cropped for a great number of years, I do not think the Canadian need have much anxiety as to the result. [Loud applause.] I have seen it said, on what I believe to be excellent authority, that in British India, which stands next on the list, the crops have lately been grown at a cost which is barely repaid by the prices obtained for them. With abundance of fertile soil, with scientific appliance for its cultivation and with easy access by railway to the great centres of distribution, your farmers appear to me to be well provided with all the conditions of success, and I shall be surprised, if, before ten years are over, the terrors of low prices and early frosts do not become things of the past. [Loud applause.] But, gentlemen, my engine has got off the rails, and I must resume my journey or I shall detain you too long. We spent a quiet day at the thriving little city of Brandon, of the neighborhood of which I had yesterday another opportunity of seeing something. We then paid a visit to the Bell Farm at Indian Head, where we spent a very pleasant and interesting day. I do not think I need inflict upon you an account of all that we saw there, first because it has already been described fully and accurately by many other visitors. Secondly, because I do not think that any arguments founded upon the experience of the Bell Farm where wheat growing is carried on under conditions, and with appliances and facilities for access to the railway, not by any means generally enjoyed by Manitoba farmers, would be worth much as bearing upon the general question of wheat raising in this country. [Loud applause.] I should, moreover, be sorry to look forward to a future for this country, in which it shall become nothing better than a huge wheat field upon which the human beings would not be more numerous than the self-binders. I say this, because, in the first place, wheat growing is not farming in the proper sense of the word, and however great the fertility of the soil, I question whether there is any which will stand continuous wheat production without eventual deterioration. If I had to describe the future which I should desire for your province, I should say that I hope to see it one day resemble a portion of the Province of Ontario, through which I have lately had the pleasure of travelling, a district divided into farms of a moderate size equipped with comfortable homesteads and devoted to mixed farming. [Great applause.] There is no reason why the agricultural system of Manitoba should not come to resemble that of Western Ontario. From Indian Head we made a pleasant excursion to the beautiful Qu'Appelle Lakes, where I was glad to find a number of bright and intelligent Indian lads receiving a good education under the kindly guidance of Father Hugonard. Leaving Fort Qu'Appelle we regained the line at Trex station after a ride which would have been more agreeable if we had not misused our way just before dark and spent some time in recovering it. I have often been told that I should be impressed by the extent of your prairies, and I must own that upon that particular occasion they appeared to be two or three sizes too large for our personal convenience. [Great laughter.] We preceded thence to Regina and spent a day agreeably at the capital of the North-West Territories, where we received a welcome not less cordial than that which your people had been good enough to extend to us. We then travelled westward until we reached Dunmore, where we joined the new line recently constructed by the Galt Company to Lethbridge. Here we made ourselves acquainted with an industry the development of which is likely to produce a very marked effect upon the future of

this part of the Dominion. In the cliffs of Lethbridge and the vicinity there appears to be a boundless supply of excellent coal, which would bring warmth and comfort to thousands of Canadian homes, and the discovery of which will go far to meet the criticisms of those who are in the habit of describing the North-west as having a climate of exceptional severity, without the necessary means of encountering it. (Great applause.) In this district alone there are, according to the recently issued geological report, some 150,000,000 tons of excellent coal available. At Lethbridge we deserted the railway track for a time, and exchanged cars for what is to me a very much pleasanter conveyance, a good broncho horse. During our first day's ride we had, thanks to the courtesy of Messrs. I. G. Baker & Co., an opportunity of seeing something of one of their huge herds of cattle and of the acts of prowess which their cowboys are able to perform with horse and lasso. We ended the day with a long and interesting meeting with the Blood Indians, and we pitched our camp in a delightful spot not very far from their reserve. Upon the following day we pressed on, still on horseback, as far as the famous Cochrane rancho. We were now within sight of the magnificent panorama of the Rocky Mountains, and I wish that my powers of description were sufficient to enable me to give you an idea of the sight which met our eyes, when, a little before sunset, we found gathered before us in a kind of natural amphitheatre surrounded by rolling hills, thickly covered with the nutritious grasses of the country, a herd of some 5,000 animals, which had been rounded up in honor of our visit. Of these the great majority showed abundant evidence of the good results which have followed from the introduction of high class male animals. A number of these pedigree bulls were to be seen throughout the herd, and it did not require an experienced eye to detect the impression which had been left on their offspring by the carefully selected bulls of Shorthorn, Polled Angus and Hereford breeds, which we saw surrounded by their respective harems. The scene was altogether a striking and remarkable one, the more so when it is remembered that of these Canadian rancho cattle scarcely any have yet been exported to Europe, the whole marketable supply being required either for the support of the Indians or for local purposes. (Loud applause.) From this point we travelled, still on horseback, to Fort McLeod, and thence to Calgary, a long but most interesting ride, pursued for the most part within sight of the Rocky Mountains and through rolling prairie suitable for supporting large herds of cattle or flocks of sheep. This is a busy and entertaining little town, the situation of which is not only picturesque in the extreme, but one which will whenever a large transcontinental traffic becomes established, give it very considerable commercial advantages. From Calgary we travelled eastward for a few miles in order to visit the Blackfoot Indians. I am glad to say that I was most amiably received, both by these and their kinsmen the Bloods, and that I obtained from both, and especially from Crowfoot, the venerable chief of the Blackfeet, assurances, of the sincerity of which I have no doubt, that their conduct would be not less satisfactory than it has been during the trying times of the summer through which we have just passed. (Applause.) It is impossible to meet these poor people, and to listen to their statements without the deepest feeling of sympathy for their present position. They are the aboriginal inhabitants of this continent. They regard themselves, and not unnaturally, as the legitimate occupants of the soil. We can scarcely be surprised, if, now that the buffalo upon which they have subsisted for so many years past has become almost completely extinct, their hearts occasionally sink within them when they see, as they express it themselves, that the white man is getting rich and the red man poorer with every year that passes. It is quite unnecessary to discuss the question of their so-called title to the lands of the Northwest. The strength of their title, if they have one, is not in its legal aspect, but in the moral claim which they have to the most considerate treatment at the hands of those who have brought into the country that irresistible tide of civilization before whose advance the native races have dwindled and receded. I am glad that the Government of the Dominion has never failed to recognize its obligation to deal gently and humanely with them and that we have upon the whole been extremely successful in doing so. (Great applause.) The problem is a very difficult and intricate one, and requires the greatest patience on the part of those who have to solve the difficulty of keeping these unfortunate beings from starvation without pauperizing them; and of leading them by methods which must necessarily be slow and gradual and at first full of disappointment, towards a civilization which at present seems to be so far beyond their reach. (Applause.) We now once more turned our faces westwards, and soon found ourselves amongst the crags and precipices of the Rocky Mountains, which we ascended so gradually and with so much ease to ourselves that it was difficult to believe that we had at last reached the summit of the famous Kicking Horse pass. I ought perhaps to refer in passing to two points of special interest which presented themselves at this stage of our journey. One of these is a magnificent spring of mineral water of warm temperature and evil odor—(laughter)—possessing, I have no doubt, valuable medicinal qualities, in which our party enjoyed one of the most luxurious baths which I ever took. I have little doubt that the time will come when our Canadian invalids will repair to Banff instead of to Aix les Bains or Wiesbaden for the restoration of their health by those libations of sulphur water, and by the respiration of the pure mountain air, which I have always regarded as having more to do with

the cure than any other part of it. The second point is the discovery in this neighborhood of a seam of very high class coal, which, I understand, more closely resembles the hard coal of Nova Scotia than that found further to the east. (Applause.) We now travelled down the famous temporary gradient of 41 per cent. by which the line descends the western slope of the Rockies. It will perhaps be sufficient if I tell you that we accomplished this part of our journey without even a momentary qualm, and with a steadiness and sobriety of movement which I never knew exceeded in my travelling days. The Rocky Mountains once traversed the ascent of the Selkirks begins. It would require the language of a great poet or the brush of a great painter to do justice to these. This was in my mind the grandest and most wonderful position of our journey. I will not attempt the task, and I will only tell you that at this moment my feelings for those who have not seen these natural wonders are feelings of the deepest pity which I shall exchange for the most unutterable contempt, if, within a few months after the opening of the line for traffic they do not avail themselves of the facilities afforded to them for seeing scenery, which I believe to be unsurpassed in any other part of the world. (Loud applause.) At this point soon after leaving the summit we again left the cars and commenced our journey across the gap, the length of which at that time reached about 47 miles, an extent let me say, which would beyond all doubt have been very much shorter had not the exceptionally heavy rainfall of the late summer, in many places carried down from the hill-sides an almost ceaseless flow of clay and gravel and seriously retarded the operations of the contractors. Our first night was spent in camp on the banks of the Columbia River close to the village of Farwell, a bustling little place of some 300 inhabitants. Every house in it was destroyed by fire a few months ago, but it has risen from its ashes and is now full of life and activity. Its position in a fine open valley where the railway crosses the waters of the Columbia River, which are navigable up to this point, gives it very considerable advantages. It is, however, as a centre of mining industry that Farwell expects to achieve great things. Immediately to the north of the settlement lies the auriferous region contained within the famous Big Bend of the Columbia River—a region within which the presence of deposits of undoubted richness has long been known. These deposits have been already worked to considerable extent, but the immense difficulties of transport and the prohibitory prices of all the necessaries of life have hitherto been an insurmountable barrier in the way of the successful prosecution of the enterprise. There is every chance that the season of 1886 will see a great rush of miners to these gold fields, and I hope a great accession of wealth and property to the town of Farwell. (Applause.) I shall always consider myself fortunate in having been compelled to ride on horseback by easy stages over this most interesting section of the line. New wonders are revealed at every turn of the road. Snow capped pinnacles of vast height and fantastic shape, great glaciers, precipitous cliffs, raging torrents, tranquil lakes, while almost throughout the whole length of the journey there rises on all sides trees the like of which I had never seen nor dreamed of. I shall never forget the spot in which our camp was pitched on the evening of one of the two days which we spent in traversing the gap. Our tents stood in a narrow glade surrounded on every side by cedars, not the cedars which we are used to in old Canada, but the variety to which the botanists have very properly given the name of *Gigantea*, and which tower 200 feet and more towards the sky.—By the light of our camp fire it was possible to see these huge gray stems stretching upwards till they lost themselves in the darkness, reaching, for all we knew, to the stars, which twinkled down upon us from the vault above, and this grove, the trees of which were probably 9 or 10 feet in diameter, was only a fair sample of the forest, which composed partly of the beautiful Douglas fir and hemlock, clothed the hill sides for miles on either side of us. In order to realize the importance of these forests we must remember that it is in British Columbia alone that we have still a large tract of timber bearing country, upon which as yet scarcely any impression has been made either by fire or the axe. But our eventful ride came to an end, and we found ourselves once more on the cars and travelling over the Onderdonk line along the valley of the Thompson River towards the Pacific coast. We had a delightful cruise on the beautiful Shuswap lakes, a veritable British Columbian Killarney. (Applause.) We spent one night here and a second at the picturesque village of Yale—one of the loveliest spots, where almost everything is lovely or interesting, and one which is, I think, likely to be largely frequented by tourists, whenever the attractions of this route come to be more generally understood. If we wanted the poet and the painter in the Rocky Mountains and the Selkirks, we wanted him not less as we flew along the marvellous canyons of the Fraser River, the windings of which we followed through scenery of marvellous grandeur and wildness, the turbid waters of the river flowing at our feet and directly below us, until, as the valley broadened out and revealed longer, wider stretches of cultivable land, we left it to strike the salt water at Burrard inlet, upon which the terminus of the line is to be established. Here we took steamers and sailed for a few hours over the quiet waters which divide the main land from Vancouver Island. Behind us the high peaks of the coast range, before us the magnificent outline of the Olympian mountains, while far away to the south Mount Baker, with its 14,000 feet of height loomed up distinctly against the sunset sky. We arrived on the evening of the 6th at Victoria, the

busy and prosperous capital of the Pacific Province of the Dominion. The next few days were spent in visits to different portions of the island to Squahmilt, where the graving dock, designed to be so much service both to our imperial and mercantile navies is making good progress, and to Nanaimo, where we saw something of the coal mines so important to this portion of the Pacific sea board, and to New Westminster, the picturesquely situated mainland capital of the Province. It would be idle for me to attempt to describe all we saw in this most attractive and interesting portion of the Dominion. There are, however, two observations which I should like to make. The first is this, that we found the people of British Columbia, without exception, full of confidence in the results likely to be achieved by the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway for their province, and ready to forget the many disappointments and anxieties occasioned to them in the earlier history of the line in the contemplation of the great advantages, material and political, which its successful construction is likely to bring to their Confederation as far as they will henceforth be concerned, to use their own expression, a matter of fact and no longer of theory. (Loud applause.) I would in the next place observe that if any sacrifice has been made for the sake of bringing the Province of British Columbia into closer connection with the rest of the Dominion that sacrifice was well worth making for the sake of joining to ourselves a country possessing such natural advantages and attractions as British Columbia. Its natural resources are considerable. It has immense wealth of timber, of minerals, and of fish. In regard to its timber it has, as I have already said, a larger area of untouched timber lands than any other portion of the continent. As to the fish I can perhaps give you the best idea of their abundance by mentioning that salmon this summer were selling on the Fraser River at one cent apiece. (Applause.) Its delightful scenery is grand and majestic, without sternness and severity. Its peaceful inlets fringed with varied foliage. Its quiet waters alive with fish and fowl. Its genial and equable climate resembling in many respects that of the Old Country, require to be known in order to be appreciated. We now set our faces homeward once more. Of our homeward journey I need only tell you that the scenery appeared to us even finer than before, when we saw it for the second time, and that we found the gap reduced in length by twenty miles during our short absence. We travelled rapidly over the prairie, spent an agreeable day at Brandon, and yesterday evening found ourselves in the hospitable city of Winnipeg, and receiving from its inhabitants a reception such as I, for one, never expected to receive in my official career. (Applause.) I have told you, I am afraid in very trite and unimaginative language, the story of my wanderings. I have returned from them with many impressions which will remain indelibly impressed on my mind. Amongst these is, in the first place, that which has been left by the invariable kindness and attention which we experienced at the hands of all those with whom we came in contact during our journey. From first to last we were received with an amount of courtesy and consideration which added greatly to the pleasure of our travels. I must mention more especially in this connection the thoughtfulness and attention of the officers of the North-west Mounted Police who took charge of us during our long ride over the prairies. Nor were we less fortunate in the arrangements made for us from the beginning to the end of our railway journey by the officials of the Canadian Pacific Railway, to whom, I fear, our somewhat erratic movements must have occasioned a great deal of trouble, but who spared no efforts to make our expedition agreeable to us. There is another thought which has also been frequently in my mind during the last few days. It is impossible to travel from this city to the western ocean without feelings of admiration for the courage, and I am almost tempted to say, the audacity, both of those who first conceived and of those who have carried out to a successful consummation this great national work. The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway stands alone in the history of great achievements in railway building. (Applause.) The physical difficulties which had to be overcome, the shortness of the time in which the work was carried out, the small numerical strength of the nation for whom the work has been done, are without a parallel in the history of similar undertakings. Our neighbors in the great Republic which adjoins us, have, it is quite true, built their trans-continental lines, but it is one thing to follow the line of a wagon road which has been in use for upwards of twenty years, and another to build such a line as that which carried us to the Pacific. No one who has not threaded the maze of mountains through which your route runs—a maze through which no path, not even a hunter's trail, had been carried until the surveying parties of Mr. Moberley and Major Rogers discovered these passes—can have any idea of the stupendity of the task. (Great Applause.) Its successful completion may well be regarded with pride and admiration, both for the moral courage of those who from the first never doubted the possibility of this great achievement, and of the enterprise and skill of those who have been responsible, first for the location and afterwards for the construction of the line through a country presenting such enormous difficulties. Well, gentlemen, there was another thought which forced itself upon my mind during my travels. All this country over which we have been passing, its natural resources and physical beauties, belongs to the Dominion of Canada. You are entitled to write the word Canada across the northern half of this continent, placing, if you like, the letter C on Vancouver's Island, and the letter A on the Maritime Provinces. But, gentlemen, the



map is, after all, a merely geographical expression, and the feeling which remains strongest in my mind when I contemplate it, is the necessity that we should each and all of us endeavor to do what lies in our power to render that Dominion something much more than a geographical expression. (Loud applause.) It is impossible to look upon this continent now sparsely inhabited by a few millions of human beings without reflecting how small are the interests of the present compared with those of the future which lies before us. Let us then keep our vision fixed upon that future, and let us remember how vast is the load of responsibility involved by the ownership of this great country. Its destinies are in your hands. By the vigor with which this national enterprise—this national highway over which we have just travelled—is being carried out you have shown your intention of leaving nothing undone for the material and political consideration of the Dominion, but the work is not ended. The completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway has nearly supplied a condition without which that work could not have been carried out successfully. Confederation without the railway was not worth the paper on which the British North America Act was printed. But the railway will not achieve the results which you expect unless from one end of the Dominion to the other, your people endeavor by mutual consideration and forbearance, by the sacrifice of all sectional interests, by fostering a national spirit, to bind province to province, city to city. If I could venture to give you advice, I should say, let us all, let the Dominion Government at Ottawa, the Provincial Government in each province, the municipal authorities in your cities, let every citizen in his own place, keep before themselves a consciousness that the present generation is not here in order that it may shape the fortunes of the country for its own selfish ends or temporary convenience. (Great applause.) Let them bear in mind that they are trustees for those who will come after them, for the millions who will one day replace the thousands now upon the soil. That their first duty is so to regulate their conduct at whatever point it touches the public affairs of the nation that when they are gone their successors may say of them that in the early days of the history of their country those who were in the position to mould its young destinies used with wisdom and foresight, and with a full sense of their responsibilities, the tremendous opportunities which Providence placed within their reach. (Tremendous applause.)

### HON. THOMAS WHITE.

#### Impressions Regarding the Northwest Gained by an Extensive Tour Throughout the Territories.

Hon. Thomas White, a Canadian statesman, whose eminent ability is acknowledged throughout the Dominion, and who, upon being called last year to the honorable position in the Canadian Government of Minister of the Interior, made an extensive tour over the Northwest territories, for the purpose of familiarizing himself with the capabilities and wants of the country, in order to efficiently administer the affairs of the department over which he had been called to preside. Upon his return, at a banquet tendered to him in Winnipeg on the 10th of November, 1885, by the citizens, in recognition of his distinguished parts as a statesman, he made an excellent speech, in the course of which he gave the following as his impression of the country:—

As to any impression I may have formed, permit me to say that as I am not a farmer and inclined to no knowledge of farming they would neither be of interest nor value to you. It would be of infinitely more value for me to give you something about the impressions gleaned from others and based on this experience. I might say that perhaps there are few men in Canada who have seen more of the people of the different provinces, especially the older ones, than it has been my privilege to see. I have addressed audiences in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario and now, and hitherto, in Manitoba. I have observed the people closely, and I have the greatest possible confidence in the intelligence of the masses. I never addressed an audience even in a back country school house without feeling that those present were as capable of appreciating an argument as I was myself. Without, however, reflecting on the people of the eastern provinces, I can state here that I never met public bodies where there is to be found so large an average of intelligent, educated, courageous and hopeful people as I have found in this Northwestern country. (Hear, hear.) It is not the sluggish and the indolent who makes his way westward. It is the man of enterprise, of energy, of character, who is not afraid to go forth into this new country and build up a home; and thus benefit his family. I have found in every part of the Northwest men of the brightest intelligence, and I met some from England of the highest education. They were gentlemen in smocks working away on their farms and looking forward with a courage that nerve them to their work.

Such a race as this, I thought, cannot fail to bring prosperity in the future. It is the impression of these people that I want to give you to-night. (Applause.) The impressions given me were these: first, that the last three or four years have been years of unlearning. That may be an extraordinary expression, but it illustrates the condition of the people of the Northwest. There were many who came here with the idea not of farming but of manufacturing wheat. They had an idea that they had only to tickle the surface of these prairies and they would have an abundant crop. Old Sam Livingstone said all he had to do was to tickle the prairie in order to raise hay. He gave me some specimens four or five feet long which he raised on the prairies, after burning the old grass off, and then running the harrow over it, and sowing the timothy.

The people, however, have learned in the Northwest that while the land is productive to a degree hardly to be overestimated, the condition of success is careful honest farming and cultivation of the soil. Year after year the settlers have been improving in that respect, and to-day you will find all over these territories that every intelligent farmer recognizes the necessity of fall ploughing and summer fallowing in order to get the crops that should be produced. Another thing they are learning here is that it is not wise to put all their eggs into one basket. I am not very old, but I can remember in Ontario that year after year there were failures in the wheat crop, and it was only when people began to realize that dependence on wheat alone was a mistake, and they went into stock raising, that the great prosperity of the Province of Ontario was attained. This idea is now beginning to prevail in the Northwest, and I found among the farmers a desire to raise cattle, sheep and hogs. I found in many cases farmers actually feeding their hogs with their frozen wheat and realizing thereby 50 or 60 cents a bushel for their frozen wheat. I know a little while ago there was a feeling that sheep could not be raised in the Northwest, that spear grass was fatal to them. It is found to-day that this is the best country in the world for raising sheep, the only difficulty being that they become too fat. This system of change is going to produce as it seems to me great progress in the Northwest.

The Northwest will make a great dairy country. The testimony given me by practical farmers, who spoke of their own knowledge, was that you will get as much butter from two cows in the Northwest as from three in Ontario. All you want is to travel through this country to see that you will get as fine butter as any epicure could desire.

But people will say where will be the market for all these products? When I saw what changes the farmers had resolved upon in the conduct of their farms, and what the result would be, I felt that the vindication of the policy of the present Government in pressing forward the C. P. R. to an early completion was not far distant. I am told to-day that half the butter consumed in British Columbia comes from California. We are bound to have in the mountains and British Columbia a magnificent market for these products, and by the opening of the C. P. R. we will have this market. (Applause.) We will meet certainly have these new markets to the west opened up which we did not calculate upon in the early history of the country, but which, when opened up by the C. P. R., will prove of immense advantage to the western portion of these territories. (Applause.)

It has been said that the climate is severe, and so I asked many with whom I came in contact about it. I met one medical man and said to him, "Doctor, this is a pretty healthy climate, is it not?" and he replied with emphasis, if the clergymen present will pardon me for repeating his expression, "Damnably healthy." (Great laughter.) He said if it were not for interesting events which occur at stated intervals in every household, there would be nothing for the doctor to do. (Renewed laughter.) I asked ladies how they liked the winter, and how they got through with it. "We like it well," they said. "It is cold, but the sky is bright and the weather cold and bracing, and we have none of that wretched weather that you have down east." In not one single case did I find one single complaint, and in most cases the utmost enthusiasm in regard to the climate prevailed.

Now, what about the frost? One intelligent gentleman gave me his experience, and as it tallies so closely with impressions received almost wherever I went, I give it to you. He left Walkerton, Ont., on the 18th of March, 1882. He came to this country and took up land, together with a friend, who also secured a farm adjoining. The first year they realized \$420 from the crop, and saved enough grain for seed. This year they have 211 acres to put under crop. He said he did not mind the frost. It was never earlier than the sixth or seventh of September until this year, when it came in the latter part of August, but it prevailed then all over the world. In 1882 he sowed wheat on the 30th of June, and reaped a splendid crop, averaging 33 bushels to the acre. He said, but for the fact of the heavy frost this year, and it came in a period almost unknown in the history of the Northwest, there would not have been a bushel of grain frozen from one end of the country to the other. That, gentlemen, was the statement I heard from one end of the country to the other. (Applause.) After travelling twelve hundred miles by buckboard and wagon, and in one case for forty miles in the bottom of a farmer's springless wagon, I found a feeling of tremendous hope for the future. I learned during my travels that there is at least 33 per cent. more land prepared this fall for crop in the spring than was prepared last year or any previous year in this country. (Hear, hear.) When you find men whose homes and happiness and prosperity and daily living, depends upon the country, increasing the area which

they intend to put under crop next year, thus showing their faith by their works, I venture to say that the people of Manitoba and the Northwest have no need to have misgivings for the future, but may look forward with the firm hope that the country will realize the proudest expectations which the most sanguine of them ever dared indulge in.

## BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

### Important Speech Delivered by its President, C. J. Brydges, Esq. —Comparisons that Cannot be Gainsaid.

For the advancement of the agricultural interests of the Province and the diffusion of information of importance to the farming community, there exists in Manitoba a Board of Agriculture, composed of representative agriculturists from all parts of the Province. This Board meets in the City of Winnipeg to discuss matters bearing on Agriculture. The President of the Board is Mr. C. J. Brydges, Commissioner of the Hudson's Bay Company, and a gentleman known for his integrity and sterling qualities. His long residence in the North-West and his intimate knowledge of its resources, enable him to speak with a degree of authority upon any subject connected with the country, which few men command, and by virtue too of the authoritative position he occupies as President of the Board, his utterances may be accepted as beyond question. At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Agriculture held in Winnipeg, the 17th of February, 1886, Mr. Brydges, in his inaugural speech, after dealing with local questions, said:

I wish now to refer to a question that has heretofore excited great interest, and which is still a matter of important moment to the people of the Province. I mean the construction of branch lines of railway. We have had several resolutions in past years, passed by the Board upon that question, urging the great importance to the country of having additions made to the railway system of Manitoba. Great difficulties arose from various causes, the principal one being that of finding the means to do the work, which is not an uncommon thing in every-day life. The C. P. R. Company said, with a great deal of force, that it was bending its forces to complete the arterial line from end to end of the Dominion, and it could not find means to extend local branches. The amount notwithstanding that, that was built last year, was on the original Manitoba Southwestern Colonization Railway, an extension of 40 miles, to a point known as Holland. The Pembina branch, or the C. P. R. Southwestern branch, was extended from Manitou 81 miles west, to a point not very far from Whitewater Lake. The Manitoba Northwestern Railway was extended from Minnedosa to Bird Tail Creek, a distance of 52 miles, making a total of 173 miles. All these extensions are now in daily operation, aiding the development and progress of the country. There is every reason to believe that in consequence of the aid given by the Government to Manitoba there will this year be a further extension of the branch railway system. The C. P. R. have been enabled, during the last few weeks, to place in Holland a considerable portion of their bonds to recoup themselves for expenditure made on branch lines last year. The Manitoba Northwestern railway has an officer in England at present endeavoring to make arrangements to go on with the extension of the road, and I am glad to be in a position to say that the advice so far received have been very satisfactory and would lead us to believe that the railway will this year be extended beyond the Assiniboine River to the northwestern confines of this Province. If the C. P. R. do what I believe it is their intention to do, their Pembina Mountain branch will be extended across the Souris River at least to the boundary of the Province during the coming season. To what extent the line which now terminates at Holland station will be extended I cannot say, but there is every reasonable prospect that some extension of that branch will also be made. I think we may count upon the extension of the Manitoba & Northwestern to the north-western boundary of the Province, and the Manitoba South-western also to the western boundary of the Province this year. If that is done there will then be in the Province the following extent of railways: on the C. P. R. mainline from the Red River to just beyond Elkhorn, which is about the point where this Province and the Territories separate 200 miles; the Stonewall branch, 19 miles; Selkirk branch, 23 miles; South-western branch to Holland station, 90 miles; Manitoba North-western branch, 130 miles; Pembina Mountain branch, 183 miles; Emerson branch, 66 miles; the road east of the Red River to Rat Portage, or the point where Ontario and Manitoba join, 100 miles. That makes a total mileage in operation to-day in the Province of 811 miles, and if, as I believe will be the case, of the extension of the Manitoba South-western and the Manitoba North-western to the boundary of the Province in either direction, 110 miles will be added; which will make a total mileage of 921 miles. I believe that will be a larger railway accommodation afforded, particularly

in proportion to the population, than any other part of this continent. No farmer will be more than 20 miles from the railway, and the majority of them will be very much less. That will tend very greatly to the promotion of settlement by inducing new comers to the Province. The fact of having such excellent railway accommodation to bring in what they desire to the Province, and also for exporting purposes, will tend greatly to attract settlers. The 811 miles of railway which now exist are equal to one mile for every 125 people in the Province at the present time, and if the additional 110 miles are built this year, there will be a mile of railway to every hundred people. (Hear, hear.) I have referred to statistics published by the Dominion Government, and I find that up to the end of 1884 there were 9,575 miles of railway. The population of the Dominion was given at the same time as 4,500,000, so that following out the estimate, it would give one mile of railway to every 470 people residing in the country. So that with the railway system now completed and to be completed there will be a larger area of railways for the population than exists in any other part of the Dominion. This is an exceedingly satisfactory condition of affairs.

We have been able to procure returns from the different railway companies as to the quantity of different kinds of grain that has been shipped by rail from the 14th of September last to the 31st of January this year, and putting these figures together, I find the total quantity shipped from the different railway stations in the Province to be: Wheat 2,429,332 bushels; oats, 201,596 bushels; barley, 27,997 bushels; making a total aggregate shipment of grain over all railways in the Province of 2,659,426 bushels. I have made investigations as to the quantity of grain that still remains in the country, and from the best information I could get I am inclined to the opinion that about one half the aggregate has been shipped, and there still remains as much awaiting export as has been shipped up to the 31st of January last. If that is anything like a correct estimate, it shows the great stride made in the growing of grain in this Province last year, and is an assurance of what will be the result in the future with regard to our exportation of grain. I have reason to believe, from enquiry and personal observation, that there has been an amount of land prepared for seeding this spring, greater by at least 30 per cent. than it was the year before. If that is correct it indicates that a very much larger area of grain will be sown this year than in any past year, and if Providence blesses us with a good season, the farmers will have great cause for rejoicing, and the country generally will be upheld. Before leaving this question, I may perhaps say that, from the same source as the figures respecting the shipment of grain in Manitoba were obtained, were secured figures regarding the movement of grain from the North-west Territories. There has been shipped up to the 31st January this year 101,998 bushels of grain, the principal quantity being wheat. These are small figures, but when we remember how very short a time it is since the shipments in Manitoba have advanced from nothing to something like five and a half million bushels of exportable grain, it is the best evidence that the territories west of us have also embarked upon a career of success and progress.

I want now to ask you to listen to some statements which I have been enabled to obtain with regard to the relative cost of growing wheat in this country and in England. I think the consideration of that question will be important because it will show those in the old country who are unable now to secure a satisfactory result from farming, that the conditions existing in this country, if they transferred themselves and their families here, are such as to produce to them exceedingly satisfactory results. I put out a statement published in the London Times some time ago under the heading of "Crop and Stock Prospects," thinking it would be useful for comparison. It appeared on the 14th of September, 1885, when harvest was comparatively completed, and they were enabled to ascertain the probable results. This statement to which I refer is one of a series published in the London Times, and compiled by experts whose statements I believe have not been called in question, and may, therefore, be accepted as being as nearly accurate as is possible to arrive at. The results are given per acre, and show the result of the growing of wheat in eleven different counties in England, viz., Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hampshire, Kent, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex and Yorkshire. In these 11 counties the results have been arrived at from answers given after careful consideration by 85 different farmers living in the counties named. They give the average cost of growing wheat per acre in the 11 counties at £8 10s. 9d. sterling (equal to \$41.54). The amount is made up of rent and tithes £1 15s. 7d. (equal to \$8.65), taxes 5s. (equal to \$1.21), manure £2 12s. 6d. (equal to \$12.77), and miscellaneous, including seed, cultivation, hoeing, etc., £3 17s. 8d. (equal to \$18.89). These four divisions make up a total of £8 10s. 9d. (equal to \$41.54). That is the actual cost to the farmer. They then give statements of the results of the products of these 85 farmers as regards wheat. They state the average receipts from grain and straw per acre as follows: Grain £5 18s. (equal to \$33.09), receipts from straw £1 12s. per acre (equal to \$7.78), total receipts £6 3s. (equal to \$40.87), allowing a loss of 2 shillings and 9 pence (equal to 67 cents) an acre, based on the sale price of 30 shillings per quarter.

In this morning's paper I notice a statement that the price of the best English wheat



yesterday was 29s. 6d. a quarter, so you will see that at this figure the loss would be very much greater than the estimate at 36 shillings a quarter showed; in fact it would make the loss £1.5s. 3d., or \$6.13 per acre in the growing. It is not difficult to see that if this is the actual state of affairs on the other side of the Atlantic, that there must be considerable movement of the farming population from one side to the other. If we can show these people over there who are working without any profit, how they can succeed if they come over here, it may be an inducement to them to cast in their lot with us, where they will derive prosperity from their farming operations. I shall probably be treading on dangerous ground if I venture to put before you any figures as to the amount it takes to produce a bushel of wheat in Manitoba. During the various extended journeys I have made through the country, I have made every possible enquiry from farmers, and in every other possible way, as to what is the actual cost of growing a bushel of wheat in Manitoba. Various figures have been given me in different parts of the Province. I was told by a great many farmers in Southern Manitoba with whom I conversed, that the actual cost to them, which, of course, does not include wear and tear, interest on investment, etc., was 25 cents a bushel. I confess I was a good deal startled at the smallness of the figure, because it was less than figures I had previously heard of. The statement was, however, made not by one, two or three, but by a considerable number of farmers. Other parties have placed the cost at a figure considerably higher. A gentleman who was largely interested in California State, and who lost \$30,000 in agricultural operations there, and who is now engaged in farming between the Manitoba boundary and Regina, near the line of the C. P. R., told me that in California it cost 60 cents a bushel to raise wheat. Basing his statement on his experience in the North-west Territories, he said he could raise wheat for 40 cents a bushel, and certainly would not exceed 45 cents a bushel, which would cover wear and tear of machinery, interest, etc. It would be safer, I think, to take the larger figure rather than the smaller. Look at the value of English corn at 61s. 6d. an acre, and that represents a yield of 30 bushels to the acre. The statistics prepared by our Secretary-Treasurer, gathered from reliable crop correspondents, reports a yield of something like 21 bushels of wheat to the acre. For the purpose of calculation, I think it would be better to call it 20 bushels to the acre. In presenting statements for the consideration of people living at a distance, I always think it wise rather to understate than overstate the case (hear, hear), and so I think we had better say 20 bushels to the acre. On that basis, the cost at 40 cents a bushel would be \$8 an acre (being the price to the farmer for producing the grain), and if you put it at 45 cents a bushel it would bring the cost of producing to \$9 an acre, or about £2 sterling. Compare this with the total of \$41.54 or £8 10s. 9d. per acre for the eleven English counties referred to. The latter, of course, included expenses, which are happily not wanted in this country; for instance, rent and tithes. Here every one does, or will at an early date, own his land in fee simple. As to taxes, about which there were complaints here, I may tell you that I had to pay last year, on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Co., \$40,000 to municipalities, which means an average of not of five shillings, but of five cents an acre, so that people coming here from England need not be afraid of the question of taxation. The cost of manure is another very large item, being \$12.75 an acre there, though here it is not likely to come to a very large sum for a long time, as any manure wanted will be produced by mixed farming.

I am glad to find that the question of mixed farming has made great advances within a year or two in Manitoba. We are now able to supply all the wants of the country in beef, without having to import anything from abroad. This has a double advantage, preventing the sending away of money which is very much wanted, and distributing the cost of the food among the people, thus aiding in their progress and development. I think the time will rapidly come when there will be more cattle than are needed in this country, and when, now that there is transport to the east, we shall be exporting them. I wish I could say the same in regard to sheep; but at present we are importing mutton from abroad. I am glad to find that there are constantly increasing importations of sheep taking place; and I hope, as there has been such good success, the result will be that we shall be able before long, to supply our own wants, and, at an early date, to export sheep as well as cattle. Poultry, I am glad to find, has largely increased. Although we do not yet quite meet the demands of our own country, still, I think the time is rapidly approaching when we shall not require even to import turkeys for our Christmas dinners. (A laugh) I am satisfied it would be of considerable advantage to farmers to have a good supply of poultry; they are profitable, they cost very little, and for the eggs there is always good sale as well as for poultry. The growth of the manufacture of butter and cheese is also, I am glad to find, increasing.

Another point to which I would like to refer is the question of fuel. When I first came to Manitoba I paid \$22 a ton for coal; this year I am getting it for \$10. This is very satisfactory; but I do not think coal has yet come down to a fair and proper price. As all are aware, one reason of the reduction has been the bringing into this place, and all along the line of the C. P. R. to the west, coal from the Galt coal mines. A railway was built last year 110 miles in length, from Durnore, on the C. P. R., to Lethbridge, where the coal mines exist. There are undoubtedly large deposits of coal all over the Territories

west of the south branch of the Saskatchewan, as well as in the Souris District. Coal is now being worked successfully at a mine a few miles west of Calgary, and distributed at various points upon the railway; and a coal mine in the mountains, near a place called Devil's Lake, has been discovered, where there is a large deposit of anthracite coal. This mine has been purchased by capitalists and is about to be worked.

## VISITORS' TESTIMONY.

### Impressions of Sir Richard Temple, Gained while Traversing the Country with the British Association.

It will be remembered that the British Association of Science, held its annual meeting in Canada in 1885. After its deliberations the members of the association were tendered an excursion over the line of the C. P. R., which was then built beyond the summit of the Rocky Mountains. From Montreal the members proceeded by special train of Pullman cars to Collingwood on the Georgian Bay, where one of the company's magnificent steamers was in waiting to convey them to Port Arthur, at the head of Lake Superior. From Port Arthur the party travelled right through the Northwest Territories to the summit of the Rockies, stopping at Winnipeg, Brandon, Calgary and many other points along the route where scenes of interest could be witnessed, and information in regard to the country gleaned. Upon the return of the Association to Winnipeg, Sir Richard Temple, who had charge of the party, was requested to address a public meeting. He complied, and in the course of a very able speech, gave the following as his impressions of the country:—

I beg to refer to the remarkable contrast presented, the beautiful country until recently called "The Lone Land," now being considered a land of promise. It is but a very few years since the places which are now the haunts of civilization were the runs and wallowing places of bands of buffaloes. The country is vast. The popular idea in England now is that the Northwest of Canada could sustain a population of 100,000,000 of Anglo Saxons. I do not know exactly how they got the figure of 100,000,000; nevertheless it is very possible that it might be realized in the not very remote future. Indeed, considering the cultivable area of the Northwest, including both the Northwest Provinces and Manitoba, which can hardly be less than a million square miles, and reckoning a population of 100 to the square mile, which is not a high average, the result would be a total population of 100,000,000. This vast area might fairly be compared with some of the neighboring States of North America, fully equalling probably that of Dakota, Idaho, Minnesota, and Washington Territory, which are constituting a land of promise to our American kinsmen.

The scenery of the prairie impressed all the excursionists with its vastness. There is a beauty in mere immensity; although the surface of the ground might not be diversified, yet it is a wonderful sight to see the sun rise and set on a tract perfectly level on all sides—as it were an ocean of vegetation. The approach of the Rocky Mountains from the prairie is perhaps the most remarkable in the world. I do not want to give exaggerated ideas. People here probably think the Rocky Mountains the greatest in the British Empire, but the British Empire is a very large place. They are scarcely more than a third as high as the Himalayas, nevertheless the approach to them from the prairie is truly wonderful; for they rise as masses of rock right out of the prairie. During the greater part of the year they are covered with snow. Even now, at the end of the summer, the rocks are mainly snow-capped. As we approached the mountains we actually saw about 150 miles of continuous snow-clad hills, which, rising straight out of the prairie, constitute a sight which is quite unique. There is only one parallel to it—namely, the approach to the Caucasus from the steppes of Russia, and even this is not so fine, as there is first a range of low hills, then another a little higher, and again above all the summits of the snow-clad peaks of the Caucasus. I believe that the contemplation of this magnificent scenery—magnificent in extent at least—has a very elevating effect upon the Anglo-Saxon mind, enlarging the ideas, brightening the imagination and elevating the sentiments. In the short addresses which we received on the way, there was a loftiness of expression almost amounting to grandiloquence, to which I had hardly been accustomed in the addresses which I have received in other portions of the British Empire. The wonders I have described are wonders of nature, but to our British eyes and patriotic minds, the greatest of all wonders was the spectacle of Anglo-Saxon, British-Canadian enterprise spreading itself over the surface of this vast country and writing its marks in letters of flame, as it were, upon the book of nature. (Applause.)

Some of the mineral resources we have seen. I allude particularly to the iron ore of which we have seen specimens at the exhibition in Winnipeg; but we have seen some

thing and heard much of the coal resources. I believe there are coal mines within a short distance of the line of the C. P. R. I understand that there are coal resources within a very moderate distance of it, and that there is quite on the line, within a hundred yards, superior lignite which will burn very well when mixed with bituminous or anthracite coal. When these coal mines are worked you will be independent of Pittsburg and the United States in respect of coal, and I need not say that this will be a great advantage.

The prairie is fast becoming a thing of the past in this part of Canada. In that respect it is following the example of the herds of buffalo, and of the poor Indians who are receding before the face of the white man. When we left Winnipeg we saw a few miles of real prairie; owing, we were told, to the fact that the lands were in the hands of speculators who were reserving them for future use. When we got beyond this limited area we really saw no prairie at all for several hundred miles when we crossed the Saskatchewan. I mean that we never passed a mile together on the plain, without seeing a homestead, or field, or the marks of human occupation. It was only when we crossed the Saskatchewan that we saw real prairie, and then it was only so in a modified sense. From the moment the homesteads and golden fields ceased, the cattle ranches began. I understand that almost the whole area from the Saskatchewan to the foot of the mountains is really in the hands of the cattle ranchers. Here again we saw signs of the Anglo-Saxon, in his cattle and his herds. The vegetation of the prairie, so far as we were able to see, in the intervals of uncultivated land, was not remarkable, but still was very rich. Some of the more enthusiastic of the party said it was the richest wild vegetation they had ever seen, but I think this was due to their enthusiasm, because the vegetation in the steppes of Russia is quite as rich, if not richer. Still, the flora of this country is such as to promise an abundant return for agricultural labor.

Almost everywhere we saw rich soil. Most of us expected that we would see tracks of acid waste, or that if we saw rich soil it would be largely interspersed with specimens of gravel, rock and soil not suitable for cultivation; but this idea proved entirely false, for I declare without exaggeration that on the whole way from Winnipeg to the foot of the Rockies—a distance of 1,000 miles—there is hardly a foot of ground that did not seem to be capable of being turned to human use. (Cheers.) Estimating the distance to the foot of the Rockies at a thousand miles, there is for this distance one unbroken area of land more or less fertile and capable of being turned to the advantage of man.

Most of the party are of opinion that the pasturage is splendid and thoroughly suited for cattle; we are surprised that we did not see sheep as well. The grass is not very long, and promises a rich reward to the hay cutter. The cattle generally seem to be quite healthy, and of very good breeds, many of them coming from the neighboring states, and apparently bred from some of the best stock in England. Sometimes complaints are heard in England that Canadian and American cattle dealers purchase some of their best animals, but it is not to be regretted, seeing that a high consideration has to be paid for them. We were all impressed with the necessity of being careful about cattle diseases. We heard much on the way regarding diseases that have broken out among cattle in various parts of the United States, reminding us of what has been in England; but we heard that Canada was free from them. For Heaven's sake take precautions to prevent their importation. I speak feelingly upon this subject, because in England we have failed to prevent the importation of diseased cattle, and the losses in consequence have been incalculable. We enquired a good deal as to ensilage, as the food for animals is becoming so fashionable in the United States and is being introduced into England; but we were told that no such food was necessary, because the supply furnished by nature is so very abundant.

I wish to speak of two kinds of crops, cereals and roots. Cereals are grown upon many farms exclusively; some of the greatest farms in the country are wheat farms almost entirely. We saw in many parts of the country specimens or exhibits of the products of the farm. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has set a very excellent example by having model or pattern farms close along the line of railway, to show what the country is capable of producing. In inspecting these, while we found nothing to equal the monster cabbages shown at the exhibition here in Winnipeg, yet we saw good turnips and potatoes. We heard in England that there would be great difficulty in growing wheat at the altitude of this country, it being too high above the sea, but this idea was entirely falsified by what we saw, for wheat grows well 2000 feet above the sea; at Calgary at 3000 feet, and at Padmore at 3,500 feet. Hence there is nothing in the altitude of this country to prevent wheat being grown on an immense scale. We inquired of farmers regarding many things which we have at home, namely, rotation of crops periodically, manuring and weeding, and we were indignantly told these things might be very necessary in the Old Country, but were not required in this new land. The same crop, it is said, has been grown year after year from land without injury. Manure, it is said, is not necessary in the virgin soil which accumulates so many advantages and has such richness in the soil, the sub-soil, and the soil underneath that, that the crops will grow without manure. As to weeds, it is said that there are none of consequence. We asked about the ploughing, and said that we had to plough very deep in the old country. We were told that nothing of the kind was necessary here, that if the ground were just scratched over, crops would

grow. We were told these things by practical men. The virgin soil here is a very abundant inheritance which has come down from what might be called a geological period, thousands of years having looked down upon these beautiful plains. The consequence is that for the time many of the old-world devices, such as deep ploughing, manuring, weeding, and rotation of crops, can be dispensed with.

The want of laborers is a great difficulty in the interior of the Northwest, and it has had this effect upon the farmers, that it has compelled them to exercise their wits and employ machinery to save labor. The agricultural machinery and implements in this country are among the most remarkable things to be seen. Every kind of implement and machine is there at work—with all their rough-sounding names, as scufflers, harrows, reapers, mowers, threshers, and the like—forming a most gratifying spectacle. We have seen them in the fields at work, in the towns outside the shops for sale, and inside the factories being repaired. The sight would make an old world man first laugh, and then feel envious. I will give one single example. In England when we reap the grain we have to stack it in order that the grain may ripen, and after that we thresh it. The Northwest farmer does nothing of the kind. He brings the threshing machine to bear upon the sheaves, furnished ready to his hand by the harvesting machine. Then having threshed the wheat, he stores it for the time in a temporary wooden structure in the field, and there he allows the grain to remain and harden until the snow falls deep and becomes fit for sleighing. Then, he draws it easily over the hard snow to an elevator, from which it is shot into railway cars placed beneath and carried away for exportation. The ingenuity, convenience and rapidity of the process gives the new world a great advantage over the old world. The consequence of this machinery and the labor-saving appliances is that the average cultivation per head is extremely high in this country. One would be inclined to say there must be a great population, judging from the area of cultivation, but on the contrary there are only a few thousands of Anglo-Saxons settled in the country. The fact is the average of acres of cultivation per head is several times as great as in the old world, every man having many acres under command, owing to the labor-saving appliances.

Some of the farms are great, extending over many square miles of wheat cultivation absolutely unbroken by any fence or hedge. Nevertheless we had the pleasure of seeing many small farms in the best cultivated districts. At Portage la Prairie we understood that small farmers owned the land and worked upon it with their own hands. The farm houses are well-built, well-aired, and I understood, well-warmed in winter, and are very comfortable, both within and without. As to cottages, we asked for them, but really there were no cottages, because there are few men so low in the social circle as to require them. The country is absolutely without farm laborers. Around the houses of the peasant proprietors we saw market gardens with cabbage beds, turnip beds, and the like, just enough for the farmers' families. There is a good supply of fuel, though one might expect that on the prairie there would be nothing but grass or vegetation. Fortunately, there is low scrubby brush suited for fuel. The soil is entirely suited for the making of excellent bricks. To the great advantage of the farmers, there is small limestone scattered over the plains from which excellent lime for masonry can be obtained. The subject of land speculation has attracted a great deal of unfavorable notice through the press. I have heard something of it in England, and still more in Montreal, but after all my impression is that the story must have been greatly exaggerated. With a vast area, a wise Government and a wise people enjoying popular representation, you should make provision for the future, so as not to allow the land to get too much into the hands of individuals or corporations. From the experience of the Old Country, leading to the springing up of communism, Canada should take care to prevent anything of the kind happening here. While the State is generous, giving land without stint or grudge to every good applicant who asks for it, nevertheless it ought to keep something in its own hands. It seems to me that that duty has as yet been fairly performed; at all events it has not been left unperformed in the way some people imagine. As to the land concession of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, it should be remembered that without that concession the railway could not have been constructed. I find that the whole of the land has not been made over to the company, but only alternate blocks, the intervening ones belonging to the State; and that the total is but a fraction of the vast area. Remarks have been made about this company's concession to a great land company, but I find that this is only a small part of the land at the disposal of the State, to give away or make disposition of as it may see fit, according to the wants of the coming generation. Hence I shall feel bound to say in England that no essential harm has been done by land concessions, and it is only fair to the Government and the Administration to say this.

One objection in England against this country is that of the winter. The summer, as known to be hot, but this the people are not so much afraid of as they are of the supposed length, dreariness and wretchedness of the winters. I believe from inquiries that this description of your winter comes from the portions of country lying under the Rocky Mountains, where the climate would make the winters somewhat like those of England, which are proverbially dull. In the rest of the country the winters are rather bright and cheery. The snow falls and hardens on the ground, and there is bright weather with blue sky over

head, so that the people walk about with the utmost facility, and on the whole have a cheerful time in the winter. In many parts of the country the residents tell me that the winter is the nicest season they have. (Applause.) From the very kind applause I judge that the description is correct, and if so it is very important that this description should be known at home, for the prevailing impression there is 'doing some harm' to emigration.

#### THE TOWNS.

I will not undertake to describe Winnipeg; but we have seen the various towns along the railway, inspecting Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Q'n'Appelle, Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw and Calgary; and I will add, Regina and Broadview. I am bound to congratulate you heartily on the condition of those rising places. Truly it is wonderful the manner in which these towns have sprung up. The streets are well laid out, and the houses are clean and tidy and picturesque in their architecture. Villas are springing up in the suburbs, and every villa has a cordon of trees springing up around it. We have observed the schools, the churches, the banks and civic buildings, and various other institutions; and we have seen also the shops full of all the paraphernalia of civilization. We have been particularly struck with the stocks of agricultural machinery already mentioned. Altogether the condition of those places is most satisfactory. We have observed also in many places factories, and in every direction perceived signs of what might be truly called culture.

#### THE INDIAN PROBLEM.

**No Danger to be Apprehended from an Indian Outbreak.—A few facts and figures in regard to this matter.**

To the mind of the emigrant, or intending emigrant to the Canadian Northwest, the existence of the native Indian tribes in the territory will naturally give rise to some misgivings as to the perfect safety of settling in a country where these aborigines exist. Any fear, however, in this respect, arises largely from ignorance of the true facts. The intending emigrant must first realize the vast extent of the territory he is coming to before he can adequately conceive the subject. In the first place he must know that there exists between Winnipeg and the Rocky Mountains a stretch of fertile country almost one thousand miles in length and about the same extent in width. This tract comprises the fertile plains of Manitoba, which are not ranged by Indian tribes, there being only an occasional and perfectly harmless band found wandering about. True there exist in the Province a considerable number of Indians, but they are all under treaty with the Dominion Government, by which they receive certain assistance in cash and food, and remain upon reserves set aside for them. These Indians, through the influence of the Government, farm instructors and Christian missionaries, have become civilized, and, to an almost universal extent, pursue an agricultural avocation on their reserves. No danger is, therefore, to be apprehended from these Indians, who are rapidly becoming a desirable element in the population, in as much as they are giving up the chase and confining themselves to farming operations. The only tribes, therefore, from which any danger is to be feared are the Bloods, the Blackfeet, the Piegiens and the Flatheads; but they are mostly located near the Rocky Mountains and north, in the Saskatchewan country, so that little apprehension need be felt by the settler, who has at least five or six hundred miles of territory to choose his home in, before approaching that country in which any danger might be feared. Then again, it should be borne in mind that most of the tribes referred to have entered into treaty with the Dominion Government, are living on their reserves, and rapidly attaining a knowledge of agriculture imparted to them by the Government farm instructors, who reside on the reserves for that purpose. Besides this the Christian missionaries are constantly at work, and scores of the savages are coming under the influence of the gospel. These latter are exercising a leavening influence on their fellow savages. The impression possibly exists that the North-west is overrun with wild savages. This, of course, is entirely erroneous, and in order that a correct impression may supplant it the following extract is given from a letter to the Toronto Mail by its special commissioner, who was sent to visit the tribes a few months ago in order to gauge the strength of the Indians, and arrive at some conclu-



slow as to their intentions this spring, it being feared that, following the recent Half-breed rebellion, trouble might be expected from the Indians. The extract, which was written from the camp of the Blackfoot tribe the 22nd January last, is as follows:—

"The Indians are contented, so far as an Indian can be. They are well fed. They say they have no grievances and only a few petty wants unsupplied. But that does not indicate what their feeling may be when the snow disappears and the grass begins to grow. It must be remembered that during the winter time these Indians have nothing to do, or at all events do nothing, and there is an old proverb, which will apply equally to the red man as to the white, regarding the readiness with which a certain individual furnishes employment for idle hands. I do not wish to create the impression that there will be an outbreak in the spring or at any other time. Far from that. But everyone at all acquainted with the nature of an Indian must admit that such a large number, so closely allied and crowded as they are into a pocket at the base of the Rockies, are bound to give the impression that precautions are necessary. No danger whatever need be apprehended from the Piegiens, who are orderly and usually well behaved, unless they should be dragged into a row. No trouble need be apprehended from the Bloods, unless either whiskey, now fortunately stamped out, should find its way amongst them again; or unless, in some horse stealing affray there should be a conflict with the police; or unless they should become involved in the quarrels of their close allies, the south Piegiens, across the line.

The Indians know their own weakness and the power of the whites. At most combining all their forces, the Blackfeet, Bloods, North and South Piegiens, they could not master more than a thousand warriors, while probably 750 is much nearer the mark. And these could never be concentrated without knowledge of the intention to do so being gained by the authorities. The Mounted Police outposts are scattered throughout the country; there are 200 policemen at Macleod, and 200 or 300 more could easily be brought from Regina and other points; while, if local cavalry corps were organized, for nearly every man there is a horseman, and he knows how to use a rifle, the Indians could easily be held in check until the arrival of other reinforcements. The settlers here think they could settle themselves, and no outside assistance would be needed in case of trouble. As they say: "We have no fears of an outbreak, but here are these large number of idle Indians, and if it should come, we can whip them." All they ask is to be organized into militia corps and have the police with them. Infantry would be of little use here, except to garrison towns and for this reason the suggestion of Col. Macleod is worthy of consideration, although, in fairness to him, he only suggests it as a precautionary measure, and not that the services of the local cavalry corps would ever be actually required.

The people throughout this section have the greatest confidence in the police, and in their ability to cope with turbulent redmen. And well they may, for inestimable service, which those in the east cannot appreciate, has been rendered by this corps. The distribution of the forces at present, it may not be uninteresting to state, is about as follows:—

A division, under Supt. McIlrae, 80 strong—50 at Maple Creek, 20 at Medicine Hat, and small outposts to the south.

B division, under Supt. Gagnon, 100 strong, at Regina. The depot division, which mainly consists of recruits, numbering about 140, is also permanently stationed at Regina.

C and H divisions, under Major Cotton and Superintendent Neale, 217 strong, at Macleod, with outposts at Lettbridge (25), Stand Off (10), St. Mary's River, near the boundary line (10), Piegan Reserve Creek (4), Pincer Creek (4). The last named outpost has to be increased in number to 10 men, and to be divided, one detachment remaining at Pincer Creek, and the other being stationed at Crow's Nest Pass, through which all cattle and horses going to or from British Columbia must pass, the officer allowing no animal to pass through unless the attendants can prove ownership. All these outposts are to be kept up without reducing the strength of the force at Macleod below 200.

D and K divisions, under Sergeant Steele and Superintendent Macdonald, 200 strong at Battleford.

E division, under Superintendent Herchmer, 100 strong, at Calgary. This covers the mountain, High River, and Blackfoot Crossing districts.

F division, under Superintendent Perry, 100 strong, at Prince Albert.

G division, under Superintendent Griesbach, nearly 100 strong, at Edmonton.

To these must be added about 20 scouts and interpreters.

And here is the estimated strength of the Indians, as closely as can be gleaned by enquiry: Bleds, 300 or 350; Blackfeet, 200; North Piegians, 100; South Piegians, 250 or 300—a total of 850 or 900 fighting men. In this, of course, the neighboring American Indians are calculated, and in no case is the number of warriors under-estimated. Besides these there are the flatheads and Kootenais, of British Columbia, who number very few. There are a few Nez Percés, who, however, do not mingle with the other Indians, and being a superior class, are industrious. On the other side of the line the Crows are not friendly with the South Piegians, although a few might join their fortunes. Then there are the South Assiniboines, near Belknap, in Montana, who would like to move into the Cypress Hills, but there is a large United States military post near them to keep them in subjection.

After all this is not such a formidable enemy, even if they were united, of which probability there is always the greatest doubt. A visit to the alleged discontented tribes dissipates the impression that there is much likelihood of an Indian uprising. The fact is that these Indians have, in the first place, according to their own statements, no actual or fancied grievances of such importance as to lead them to cause trouble. Of course some of them have grievances, but they are decidedly paltry in character. With the Government's treatment they apparently have no fault to find, and, as a rule, they seem to be satisfied with the officials placed over them. They have enough to eat (an Indian's appetite is an important factor in this question), and are as contented and happy as any similar body of men in similar circumstances could be expected to be. By educating the young Indians who know what progress the rising generation could make? The industrial schools are doing a good work in this way; so are mission schools, and their beneficial effects will be appreciated before long. A hospital should be established on each large reserve, which would be a home for the sick, the afflicted, the deserving needy and the aged and helpless ones—in that way their condition would be bettered. Local cavalry corps should be organized throughout the North-west, at different centres, well equipped and completely officered. The full strength of the Mounted Police should be maintained; and the presence of a British regiment of the line would have a great effect on the Indian mind."

It will be seen from the foregoing conclusions of a gentleman who has spent most of his life in the country, is familiar with the manners and customs of the Indian, and whose integrity is above question, that little or no trouble is to be feared from the Red man even in the far west, while, as already pointed out, there are millions of acres of the finest soil in the Dominion open for settlement, near which the Indian does not roam, and where perfect safety in settling can be relied upon. It should also be borne in mind that the Mounted police force in the Territories, since its recent enlargement, is now more than sufficient to cope with any body of turbulent Redskins, who might congregate at any point. This force is distributed throughout the Territories so that any effort on the part of Indians to concentrate their forces could be easily prevented, and members of the force have strict orders to prevent concentration. Then, under the treaty, the Indians are obliged to stay upon their reserves—a refusal to comply entailing forfeiture of the Government annuity.—So that they are thus kept from commingling and plotting treason. This precaution is one of the wisest adopted by the Canadian Government. Then again, the fact should not be lost sight of, that with the excellent railway facilities now afforded, since the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, four thousand troops from Eastern Canada could, if necessary, be transported to quell any disturbance that might arise, in a time not exceeding three or four days from the receipt of intelligence of such trouble.

Mr. Wrigley, Commissioner of the Hudson's Bay Company, who, from the important post he occupies, is in a better position to speak with authority upon the Indian question than most men in the Northwest Territories was recently interviewed at Winnipeg upon the subject. Being asked his opinion regarding the probability of an outbreak among the

Indians, he replied that the probability of danger was greatly exaggerated. Further on in the interview, replying to a question as to what policy he would advise being pursued toward the Indians, he spoke as follows, and his words will commend themselves to all right thinking men for their broad and humane character: "There is no question that the present plan of having them living in masses together, comparatively speaking, in idleness, with just sufficient to keep body and soul together, is unwholesome, and we could scarcely expect either red, white or black men succeed under it. There is no doubt, however, that the Government are fully alive to the question, but they doubtless realize that the desirable change cannot be effected in a year or two, and that nothing would be gained by undue haste. The Indian must be raised from the plane he now occupies, but that is a work of time, care and patience. If the Indians were given their land in severalty, with proper restrictions, instead of being placed in large numbers on reserves, a more healthy state of affairs would result, and the tribes would thus be placed in a position from which their chance of attaining a higher degree of civilization would be possible. It might be wise, before long, to make a trial with some band which is among the most advanced. If the experiment prove a success, it would have a tendency to make the Indians citizens, with an interest in the peace and prosperity of the country."

<sup>4</sup> In view of all these facts the danger may be said to be reduced to a minimum, so that intending immigrants need not be the slightest apprehensive of coming to settle in the Northwest.

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—O—

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PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

# TO EMIGRANTS —AND— INTENDING SETTLERS.

The Department of Agriculture of the Manitoba Government having established an Immigration Office in the City of Winnipeg, immediately opposite the Canadian Pacific Railway Station, all immigrants and intending settlers are invited to call at the Agency where they can obtain reliable and correct information, which cannot fail to be useful and valuable to them. Maps, etc., of the Province, and pamphlets containing full descriptions of the country and its resources will be supplied at the Agency to all applicants. Registers containing the names and addresses of parties requiring farm laborers, mechanics, domestic servants, etc., are kept in the agency for the information of parties seeking employment.

The Agency is in charge of Mr. JAMES A. GREEN, as resident agent.

(Signed)

A. A. C. LaRIVIERE,

Minister of Agriculture, Statistics and Health.

Department of Agriculture, Statistics and Health, }

Winnipeg, April 13th, 1886. }



# Free Homes in Canada

The Dominion Government offer **FREE HOMESTEADS** in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories to all settlers who may apply for them. The land is pronounced by experts second to none in the world.

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The country is laid off in Townships six miles square, containing thirty-six sections of 640 acres each, which are again subdivided into quarter sections of 160 acres, the latter number of acres embracing a homestead. The Government owns all the even numbered sections which are open for homesteading. Two sections in every township are set apart for school purposes, so that the education of the settler's children may not be neglected.

## LIBERALITY OF CANADIAN LAND REGULATIONS

The Canadian Land Regulations having been very generally represented to be more onerous and less liberal than those of the United States, it is proper to point out to intending settlers that ten dollars (\$10) covers the whole of the office fees in Canada, either for pre-emption or a homestead; while in the Western States there are three fees, one of eight dollars, payable on entry, another of eight dollars for a commission, and another of ten dollars when the patent is issued making twenty-six dollars (\$26.00). In some of the States the fees are thirty-four dollars (\$34.00). The U. S. lands are sold at \$2.50 and \$1.25 per acre. These prices are nearly the same, but the difference is favorable to Canada.

In the United States a settler cannot get his patent until after five years residence. In Canada only three years are required.

In fact, it is repeated that not on the Continent of America, and it is believed not elsewhere, are the Land Regulations so favorable as in Canada.

It is provided by the Canadian Naturalization Act that aliens may acquire and hold real and personal property of every description, in the same manner and in all respects as a natural born British subject, without any discrimination against the nation from which such aliens come.

To take up United States Government land, however, the following oath is required to be taken by a British subject:—

I, ..... do swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America, and that I do absolutely and entirely Renounce and Abjure for ever all Alliance and Fidelity to every Foreign Power, Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to Queen Victoria of Great Britain and Ireland, whose subject I was. And further, that I never have borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the degrees of Nobility of the country whereof I have been a subject, and that I have resided within the United States for five years last past, and in this State for one year last past.

## INTELLIGENCE OFFICE ESTABLISHED.

For the benefit and protection of immigrants the Department of the Interior has opened an Immigration and Intelligence Office in the City of Winnipeg, adjoining the Canadian Pacific Railway Station. It is the duty of the Officers connected with the Office to meet immigrants arriving on all trains, take charge of them, protect them from sharks, exorbitant charges, etc., and supply them with the fullest information respecting the country. In the Intelligence Office will be found Maps showing settlements, Guide Book and list of lands open for Homestead entry, and all such information as settlers require. The Office is in charge of Mr. J. H. Metcalf, M. P. P. a gentleman familiar with the country, and who is prepared to furnish the fullest information either upon personal or written application. He has assistants who speak the foreign languages fluently. From the detailed information, which can be obtained from the Office, the intending settler can select for himself a location or district, and thus avoid the waste of time and expense necessitated by travelling all over the country in search of land.

For further information apply to

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DOMINION LANDS COMMISSIONER, WINNIPEG.

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C. J. BRIDGES,

Land Commissioner.

# FREE HOMES FOR ALL

—O—

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The opening of the two branches of the Manitoba South Western Colonization Railway, one to Boissevain, 183 miles, and the other to Holland, 85 miles, South West from Winnipeg, enables this Company, for the first time, to offer to the public, at **MODERATE PRICES**

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WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

